



Chief Executive's Management Report

13th May 2024
Item 28



CONTENTS

People, Corporate & Digital Services 1 to 4 People Services Health & Safety Unit Customer Services CRM Communications Building Facilities / Energy Improvements Current Judicial Review Cases	Housing and Community 57 to 81 Housing (57-74) Supply Asset Management Support Tenancy Services Housing Ukraine Response Vacant Homes
Economic, Enterprise, Tourism & Cultural Development 5 to 24 <u>Tourism Development</u> Tourism Events Heritage Properties <u>Cultural Development</u> Arts / Libraries <u>Economic Development</u> Local & Rural Development LEADER Economic Programme Healthy Fingal Enterprise Centres <u>Town Regeneration</u> Balbriggan Socio-Economic Strategy / T&V Scheme <u>Local Enterprise Office</u>	Community Development (75 – 81) Community Development Facilities Management Interagency Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT) Ukrainian Supports Age Friendly Fingal Funding <u>Environment, Climate Action, Active Travel and Sports Department</u> 82 to 105 Active Travel Climate Action Environmental Awareness Bring Centres Litter Management Landfill Aftercare Water Quality Protection Sports Office
<u>Operations</u> 25 to 44 Works Programmes Car Parking Services Burial Grounds Services Traffic Operations County-wide Fleet Management & Plant Hire Unit Street Lighting LED Programme Recycling Centre Update Licences Surface Water Meetings / Briefings/Other	Finance 106 Rates Development Levy Income Payroll Procurement
<u>Planning and Strategic Infrastructure</u> 45 to 56 Planning Applications Planning Decisions Building Control Admin Strategic Policy Unit Built Environment Division Transportation Planning Parks & Green Infrastructure Division	Appendix 1 107 to 109 (a) Revenue Account Income & Expenditure (b) Capital Account Income & Expenditure (c) Summary of Corporate Debtors Appendix 2 110 to 111 No of contracts awarded YTD Appendix 3 (a) 112 Environmental Complaints, Inspections and Enforcement Actions Appendix 3 (b) Active Travel Investment Grants 113 to 118 Appendix 4 119 to 122 Housing Delivery Construction Programme

Chief Executive's Foreword

In towns and villages all across Fingal, a dedicated collective of volunteers work tirelessly week in, week out to improve their localities and enhance public spaces for the enjoyment of all. We have all seen Tidy Towns groups working hard by planting, cleaning, litter picking and painting around our areas, in all kinds of weathers! Their enthusiasm and commitment is unparalleled and I was very pleased to attend the Mayors Awards on Wednesday May 1st at which these groups were honoured. Hosted by Mayor of Fingal Cllr Adrian Henchy and MC'd by broadcaster Deric Hartigan, the event was an uplifting celebration of the people who make up Tidy Towns groups. Collaboration with communities is a key element of the work we do in Fingal and we are fortunate to enjoy a productive and rewarding relationship with Tidy Towns in the county. I would like to offer my congratulations to the representatives of all the groups who attended the awards and who are so deserving of our recognition and sincere thanks.

In 2024, Fingal County Council is offering more than 450 homes in 11 locations for purchase under the Affordable Housing Scheme. Applications are currently open for 339 of these homes and are available to first time buyers or fresh start buyers who qualify under the criteria to buy. The locations of these homes include Church Fields in Mulhuddart; Balmoston, Donabate; Ballealy Rise, Lusk and Kilmartin Grove, Dublin 15. Working with the Department of Housing, the Land Development Agency and developers like Glenveagh, GEM, Ballymore, Lagan, Gannon and Manley has ensured that our dedicated Housing team can facilitate the roll out of beautifully finished homes in these latest schemes. Cognisant of the many different requirements of families, single persons or couples, there are homes ranging from 2-bed units to spacious 3-bed homes as well as larger 4-bed houses for bigger families. We are absolutely committed to delivering under Housing for All and I am pleased with the progress we are making in this area. It is a priority for most people to be in a position to have their own home and affordable housing and cost rental schemes such as these are helping people to realise that dream. To learn further information on the process and to verify your suitability for the scheme please consult; <https://www.fingal.ie/AffordableHousing>

Providing an excellent standard of accessible services to members of the public who call to our offices or use our online services is a strong focus for Fingal County Council. Cathal Kearney was appointed as the council's Access Officer last year and is overseeing the preparation of Fingal's first Access Strategy. The plan will contain actions and objectives to ensure service users will be provided with an inclusive and accessible experience in their dealings with us. Cathal invites everyone to have their say on the draft strategy by taking

part in a survey to gather public insight. The survey, which will close on May 17th, is designed to capture the views of the entire community and particularly those with an experience of a disability. You can have your say by viewing the survey in hardcopy form in our public offices, online on the Fingal Consultation Portal or by recording or videoing your responses. Your input on this important matter is acknowledged and valued and will help to inform the direction of our services for all.

The rejuvenation of the harbour area and Quay Street Balbriggan took another positive step forward on Monday April 29th as contracts were signed with the developer John Craddock Ltd. This is another milestone in the journey of this project which, when completed, will offer the people of and visitors to Balbriggan an exciting and attractive public realm experience in the Quay Street and harbour environs as well as improvement works in Bridge Street to take advantage of the position of the Bracken River. Further large infrastructural improvements such as the introduction of a Green Corridor, which will extend from Stephenstown, following the River Bracken, through Millpond Park, will create a new street edge and park entrance on Bridge Street, flowing down to a transformed Quay Street, Viaducts and reimagined Harbour. The busy railway station area will undergo huge changes thanks to public realm and streetscape improvement works as well as works to integrate Active Travel and support football in the area. This is an exciting time for the town as the works commence and the carefully crafted vision for this dynamic place edges closer. I look forward to seeing the process of change over the coming months and welcome these latest developments.

Some highly anticipated events are taking place in Fingal over the coming weeks and months. The hugely successful Fingal Proms took place from May 3rd to May 5th. Accomplished artists including Paul Byrom, Leah Barnville, Tom Dunne and Dermot Byrne gave incredible performances which were much appreciated by audiences in Shackleton Gardens in Clonsilla, The Seamus Ennis Centre in the Naul and Baldoyle Community Hall. Continuing on the theme of musical performances, the ever popular Nathan Carter will be returning to Swords Castle on Friday July 26th bringing his own rousing style of country music guaranteed to have everyone dancing and singing along! The weekend doesn't end there as 80's superstars Sister Sledge plus support take to the stage on Saturday July 27th for performances of their greatest hits – one not to be missed. Details on all upcoming events in Fingal, including the highly popular Flavours of Fingal, are currently on our social media channels. I hope you enjoy some of the fantastic events taking place over the summer.

Best wishes,

AnnMarie Farrelly CE

PEOPLE, CORPORATE AND DIGITAL SERVICES

Contents
People Services
Health & Safety Unit
Customer Services
Digital Services
CRM
Communications
Building Facilities
Current Judicial reviews

People Services Recruitment

People Services Recruitment Programme continues through 2024.

Recruitment Programme 2024	
Total Recruitment Campaigns	47
Campaigns Completed	27
Current Campaigns	20
Interviews Held to date	404
New Starters	64

Learning & Development Update

The Learning and Development team continue to deliver high quality training opportunities for staff.

Learning and Development Programme 2024 – [January -YTD]	
No of Courses Provided	96
Number of Attendees	915
Number of Training days	998.5

Throughout May courses will be delivered in the areas of Personal Development, Health & Safety, Business Skills, Specialised Departmental Training & Mandatory Training.

Wellbeing Update

Fingal County Council will launch 'Elephant in the Room' to staff in May. This is an awareness initiative created to help give people everywhere permission to talk openly about their mental health. The initiative uses art to help promote an open culture and start conversations.

A number of art sessions were successfully offered to staff during April as part of our 'Creativity for Wellbeing' programme. Artistic activities such as painting have been proven to Enhance mental health, Reduce Stress, Foster Resilience, Fuel Joy. Further sessions are scheduled throughout May.

HSU – Health & Safety Unit

The HSU during the month of April 2024 completed a number of incident investigations, site safety inspections and safety audits within the various directorates in Fingal County Council. The HSU continued to field staff requests of a variety of safety issues including advice on smoking cessation, VDU assessments/remote working and advice on evacuation during fire alarm activations. The HSU towards the latter part of April began to compile Fingal County Council's submission for the 2024 NISO safety awards all-Ireland competition.

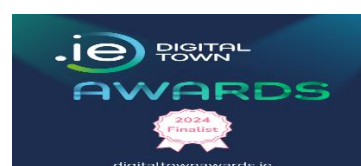
Customer Services

Month	Total No. of Calls	Total No. of Emails	Presenting in Person
April	10,737	1,845	1,818

Digital Services

VR for Libraries Shortlisted for a Digital Town Award

Virtual Reality (VR) for Fingal Libraries, has been shortlisted in this years' **.ie Digital Town Awards** under the award category: Digital Education.



The VR for Fingal Libraries project is a joint project between Fingal Libraries and Fingal Digital Services Department, which aims to introduce the wider population to an emerging technology. Giving access to digital twins of Fingal County Council (FCC) planning models, 3D videos of heritage properties, Irish language content, and a curated set of apps designed to engage and inspire. Fingal Libraries also have access to Unity Learn on their public PCs, enabling the next generation of VR creators. FCC is the first local authority to develop this kind of VR programme.

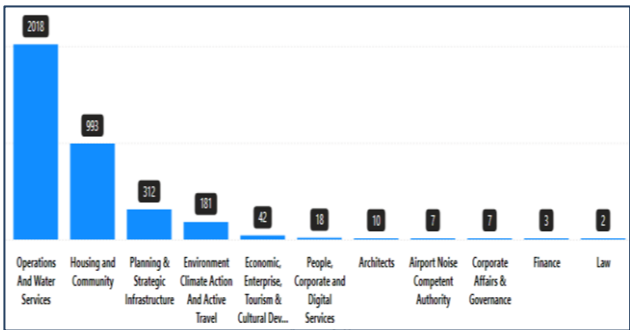
The Digital Town Award Ceremony will take place on Friday 24th May in Athlone VR for Libraries Events

CRM

Staff continue to work on the Customer Relationship Management System (CRM) and issue responses to representations from Elected Members (Councillors, TDs and Senators) and complaints submitted by the public. The total number of Elected Members’ representations were as follows for April – 1091.



The table below shows the total number of Elected Members’ representations assigned to each Department to date in 2024.



Communications

The Communications Unit provided support to several departments during April including the signing of the contract for the public realm works to Quay Street and the Harbour in Balbriggan. Support was also provided to the People Services Department who took part in the Jobs Expo in Croke Park; to the Strategic Infrastructure Department who opened the new playground at Lanesborough Park and to the Heritage and Conservation units who hosted a visit to Fingal by Minister Malcolm Noonan.



Website

In the period of April 1 to April 30 the fingal.ie website attracted 166,721 visitors, reflecting an increase of 24,104 compared to March. The number of page views soared to 402,370 marking a 25.6% rise from March and an impressive 39.6% growth from the same month last year. The most frequented pages were those featuring news about the Affordable Housing Scheme, Contact Us section, information on Recycling Centres and Job listing section.

Social Media

The Affordable home scheme post on Facebook and X collectively reached 39,561 people with an engagement rate of nearly 25%. Furthermore, the post seeking nominations for the Quiet Streets trial to address rat-running on streets had a cumulative reach of 28,972 and an engagement rate of 10.21% across the three platforms: X, Facebook, and Instagram. With an engagement rate of 8.14% the post about vandalised public toilet at Ward River emerged as the post with the third most reach for April.

In terms of follower growth, the Instagram account saw an increase to 9,489 followers, while Facebook is at 34,000. X and LinkedIn saw substantial growth with 54 and 166 new followers respectively, bringing X's following to 23,409 and LinkedIn's to 9,000.

Overall, the corporate social media channels now have an accumulated following of 75,896.



Videos

During April, nine videos were created and uploaded onto the Council's YouTube channel. Among them was a video featuring 'Xplore your future 2023', showcasing testimonials and feedback from teachers and students who have participated in the program. Additionally, videos were created to highlight topics such as the Community Monuments Fund grant; coverage of the Minister of Heritage visit to various heritage sites across Fingal; and the Conservation of Balbriggan's Boat House and Bath House. Moreover, there was a video showing the various job roles within Fingal County Council and the benefits of working here.

All these Videos can be accessed at <https://www.youtube.com/@FingalCountyCouncil/video/videos>.



Press Releases

Throughout April, the communication unit issued ten press releases covering various events and initiatives. Among them were the opening of the new Lanesborough Park playground for the community in Meakstown; the opening of the first exhibition in Carnegie Library, and the return of the Dublin Canvas public art project. In addition, the launch of an Access Strategy survey aimed at understanding how the citizens of Fingal engage with the Council's services was also highlighted.



Media Queries

The Communications Unit responded to 32 media queries in the month of April. These inquiries covered various topics, including discussions on Tenant-in-situ, developments concerning a large site on the Rathbeale Road in Swords, and concerns regarding Soil & Water contamination in Dublin Airport.

Building Facilities / Energy Improvements

The first 6 Months of the EPC have seen valuable savings for the Council (Reconciliation period 1 – September 2023 – March 2024). These savings are set to increase as the energy conservation measures are optimized and increased energy awareness is encouraged with the ongoing day to day management of the offices. The combined total energy savings achieved amounted to 19% which represents a reduction of 176 tonnes of carbon emissions.

This is the result of 34% day time electrical savings, 27% nighttime electrical savings, and 12% gas energy savings. The combined total cost savings are 25%.

During this reconciliation period, building facilities have installed some energy meters to support energy monitoring. As the program develops it is beneficial for both parties (the council and the Energy Savings contractor) to seek and explore new opportunities which will lead to more energy savings

The total electrical cost reduction achieved through reconciliation period 1 is 32% based on the agreed contract rates. The total day and night consumption reduced from 967,274 kWh to 656,252 kWh which represents the 32% reduction. The main electrical daytime savings have been achieved in Swords County Hall with a reduction of 42%. This is mainly due to the lighting upgrade (LED light fittings).

Current Judicial Review Cases - April

Mayeston Hall Management Company Limited by Guarantee -v- Fingal County Council, Ireland and the Attorney General 2024/505JR
Kimpton Vale Limited -v- an Bord Pleanála and Fingal County Council High Court Record No. 2022/390 JR
Christian Morris v. An Bord Pleanála, Fingal County Council and Trafalgar Capital Limited High Court Record No. 2022 1074 JR
Graymount House Action Group, Darragh Richardson, and Aoife Grimes v An Bord Pleanála, Fingal County Council, the Minister for Housing, Ireland, and the AG High Court Record Number 2022/1107 JR
Joan Reynolds and Edel McDonough -v- Fingal County Council High Court Record No 2023/372 JR
MKN Properties Limited and another -v- Fingal County Council High Court Record No. 2023/373 JR
daa plc -v- Fingal County Council High Court Record No 2023/383 JR
Fiacre Ó Cairbre -v- An Bord Pleanála, Garlandbrook Limited, Alcove Ireland Four Limited, and Uisce Éireann High Court No 2023/570 JR
Ciaran O'Kelly and Dorone Paris -v- an Board Pleanála and Jacko Investments Limited and Fingal County Council High Court Record Number 2023/581 JR
daa plc -v- Fingal County Council and the Irish Aviation Authority High Court Record No. 2023/916 JR
Friends of the Irish Environment CLG and SMTW Environmental DAC-v- the Minister for Housing Local Government and Heritage, Ireland and the Attorney General and the Office of Planning Regulator and Fingal County Council High Court Record No 2023/1047 JR
Niall O'Connor and Geraldine Kiernan -v- An Bord Pleanála and Fingal County Council High Court Record No 2023/1122JR
Erigo Limited and Joseph Flood -v- Fingal County Council and others High Court Record No 2023/1233 JR
Timothy Fitzgerald and James Fitzgerald -v- Fingal County Council Record No 2023/1236 JR
Kinwest Limited -v- An Bord Pleanála, Minister for Housing Local Government and Heritage, Ireland and the Attorney General and Fingal County Council High Court Record No. 2023/1206 JR
Kinwest Limited -v- An Bord Pleanála, Minister for Housing Local Government and Heritage, Ireland and the Attorney General and Fingal County Council High Court Record No 2023/1207 JR
Kinwest Limited -v- an Bord Pleanála, Minister for Housing Local Government and Heritage, Ireland and the Attorney General and Fingal County Council High Court Record No. 2023.1208 JR
Martin Ryan and Mary Ryan -v- Fingal County Council High Court Record No. 2023/1245 JR

Contents

- Tourism Development**
 - Tourism
 - Events
 - Heritage Properties
- Cultural Development**
 - Arts
 - Libraries
- Economic Development**
 - Local & Rural Development
 - LEADER Economic Programme
 - Healthy Fingal
 - Enterprise Centres
- Town Regeneration**
 - Balbriggan Socio-Economic Strategy
 - T&V Scheme
- Local Enterprise Office**

Tourism

Meitheal – Fáilte Ireland



Fingal Food & Drink Network



Local Authority Tourism Officers Network

The network is convened formally under the aegis of the CCMA who have set its terms of reference. Declan Power and Ciarán Staunton from Tourism Development section in Fingal attended.



Fingal Proms 2024

Fingal Proms from 3rd-5th May is taking place in Shackleton Gardens Clonsilla, The Seamus Ennis Centre & Baldoyle Community Hall. Acts include Broadway & Beyond with Paul Byrom & Band, On the Road again with Tom Dunne & Fiachna O'Braonain and Trad & Tea.



Swords Concerts 2024

The 2024 Concerts have been announced for Friday 26th July with Nathan Carter and Saturday 27th July with Sister Sledge with Support. This years concerts will be in Swords Town Park so we can facilitate bigger crowds, tickets are selling well. Further information and ticket links can be found on www.eventsinfingal.ie

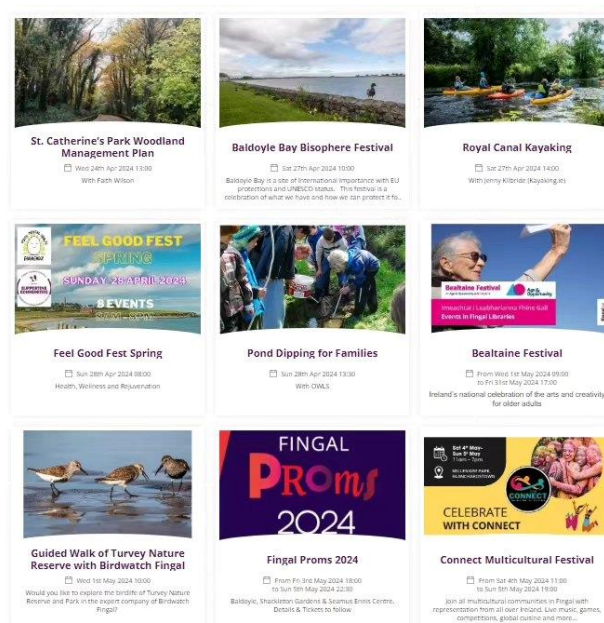


Baldoye Bay Biosphere Festival

The Baldoye Biosphere Festival took place on the 26th & 27th April and was very successfully run and was supported by the Events Unit with Funding, Photography & Social Media Support.



Upcoming Events



Our website has being updated with over 70 upcoming events from the Connect Multicultural Festival in Blanchardstown, to the Wave Regatta in Howth and the Balbriggan Summerfest, all of which are part of our festival and events funding scheme, we are also promoting a large amount of Biodiversity events on the website.

HERITAGE PROPERTIES

Operator continues to win awards

The Operator at three of the Fingal Heritage Property sites – Aramark – won the Management Team of the year award at the Chamber of Commerce “In-business” recognition award ceremony on the 11th April in Clontarf Castle.

The award is a prestigious recognition of the excellence that the operator uses in management for the facilities assigned to it under contract by Fingal County Council, namely:

- Malahide Castle and Gardens
- Newbridge House and Farm
- Casino Model Railway
-

In accepting the award Aramark were keen to praise their staff team, and to cite the stability and rigour of the service level agreements with the Council on these sites, leading to commercial success, excellence in conservation and high standards of customer service.

Malahide Castle & Visitor Centre Energy Centre Upgrade

Contractors are now appointed and with a series of stakeholder meetings now completed on-site the works are scheduled to commence in early May 2024. This project will deliver a more sustainable and enhanced energy efficiency across the site.



Skerries Martello Tower – Restoration Project

The process of restoring and conserving the Martello tower on red island has begun. A consulting engineer has been appointed to investigate the stability of the structure overall, including the external render and windows, internal fabric, flagstones, foundations and viability of an annexe to the tower, and possibility of a viewing gallery at the top.

It is hoped that this enabling phase will complete by the end of June, with a design solution proposed over the summer and proceeding to formal permission and consent in the Autumn or Winter this year.



Ardgillan Castle Alarm Upgrade

Having last year completed the roof project a series of works and upgrades in Ardgillan Castle have continued this year. A pressing issue identified during the construction was the need to modernise the intruder alarm system, which protects the house and collection therein.

Working with our contractors the new alarm spec was developed and commissioned and the project is now complete and snagged. Security of the site is now enhanced to a high standard.



CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT **ARTS**

Youth and Education

Space Crafts – and arts & science initiative for DEIS schools in D.15

Fingal Arts Office and DIAS Dunsink have formed a unique partnership that will expand over a two-year period and allow for significant collaboration between contemporary artists and scientists on site. DIAS is a rich source of scientific information and ripe for creative investigation. Artists Aileen Murphy, Julia McConville and Mary Jo Galligan have begun working with DIAS scientists to research and develop methodologies for engaging with children in and through science and the arts.

Through a series of collaborative science and arts workshops children will be introduced to STEAM subjects they will soon study in secondary school in a fun way. Activities will stimulate interest in the exciting space research taking place at Dunsink and contemporary art practice. Castaheany Educate Together National School and St. Philip's Senior National School, Mountview, are the first of 8 primary schools to participate. The initiative is primarily funded through a successful application made to Science Foundation Ireland Discover Programme.

Dance in Schools



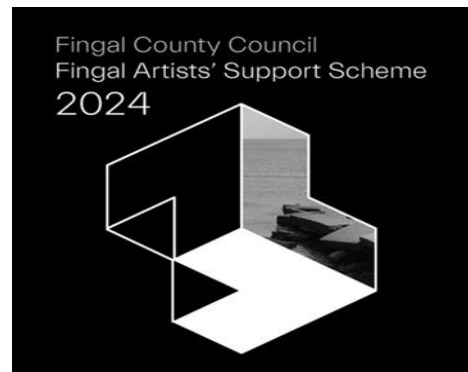
Choreographer and dance instructor Mariela Mira visited Swords Community College this month to explore contemporary dance techniques with students through fun and inclusive dance workshops. This forms part of a larger research project Fingal Arts is commissioning in partnership with Dublin Youth Dance Company to map and assess dance provision countywide.

Public Art



Adam Gibney has commenced his engagement with participants from the Thrive programme Balbriggan on his groundbreaking public art commission **Tidal Composition**. A series of interactive sculptural works will live in the home of participants for a lunar month. The work is accompanied by a logbook which is designed to work with the artwork so that the participants can share their thoughts on how the sea supports our mental health. Workshops are being facilitated by writer and playwright Louise Lewis on the project at the Base Centre. Sculptor **Jackie McKenna** has presented a new proposal for the final artwork on the **St Patrick's Way & Art Trail** which will celebrate St. Patrick in Skerries.

Artist Funding & Support



Applications have been received from professional artists under the 'Fingal Artists' Support Scheme 2024'. This scheme arose as a core recommendation from the Council's Arts Development Plan 2013-2017. Now in its eleventh year, demand for the funding scheme has increased from 37 applications received in 2014 to 263 eligible applications received this year.

The funding allows professional artists in Fingal to avail of funding support towards professional development opportunities, a residency, or towards the development of their careers as artists.

Open to practicing artists at all stages in their professional careers working in music, visual art, drama, film, dance, and literature, eligible applicants must have been born, have studied, or currently reside in the Fingal administrative area. Following the recent adjudication by an independent panel of assessors, 86 awards, amounting to a total sum of €250,000, have been recommended to the Council for approval at the May meeting.

Draíocht



Draíocht – Nest Closing Event

On Saturday 13th April 2024 Mayor of Fingal, Councillor Adrian Henchy accept the formal gifting of forty-six commissioned artworks by Draíocht to Fingal County Council's Municipal Art Collection at the closing event of Nest. Nest, a significant multidisciplinary and community-based project, included 23 new performances created by theatre, dance and music artists for 23 host children and young people aged between 7 weeks old to 22 years old. These performances took place in schools and homes all over Dublin 15. Two significant visual art portraiture projects were also commissioned:

- **NEST - The Portrait Project** in the Ground Floor Gallery presented a new series of specially commissioned artworks in paintings and drawings from four of Ireland's leading artists, Zsolt Basti, Sahoko Blake (ARHA), Dorothy Smith (ARHA), Una Sealy (RHA). The exhibition featured works of portraiture and companion pieces inspired by the 23 children and young people participating in NEST.
- **NEST - You, Me, Us** in the First Floor Gallery featured a photographic and collage installation of portraiture, drawing and testimonials made by 153 young people from Dublin 15 schools participating in NEST and investigated identity and self-representation. Led by photographer-in-residence Liadh Connolly, the young people were invited to compose, stage, costume and style portraits of each other.

Rooted in portraiture, the exhibitions were multiple in their perspectives and consistent in the depth of feeling that a generation of children and young people living in Dublin 15 attach to the idea of 'Nest'. The vibrancy and diversity of the works presented on paper, canvas and vinyl mirror those same characteristics in the young people at its core. The works reflect Fingal's young, diverse and growing population.

Following the formal gifting, the children and young people who took part in Draíocht's NEST Project were presented with a replica of their portrait to keep. Speaking at the event Mayor of Fingal, Councillor Adrian Henchy said, *'Fingal County Council are delighted to receive these new works into our municipal art collection, which celebrates its 30th year. We value our collection as an important cultural asset and a valuable resource for engagement, creativity and enjoyment, it has the capacity to tell many stories and these new works will help us say more as those immortalised in art will continue to grow alongside it'*.

Seamus Ennis Arts Centre

Art Exhibition

Kells artist Ken Browne's exhibition opened 2nd of April and will run until the end of May. The exhibition features Browne's large abstract landscape pieces.

Classes

A new term of Music Classes began this month with 60 students enrolled across a number of instruments. Our traditional music Parent and Toddler class Ceilí Beag continues.

We collaborated with Music Generation on an Easter Camp for teenagers.

Cinema

Fallen Leaves and Anatomy of a Fall were our April films, both very well attended.

Slow Sessions and Singing Sessions

Our slow sessions and singing sessions have been well attended in person, while people from all over the world including UK, USA, France and more have joined us on Zoom and via live stream.

Music

We had a wide selection of artists playing at TSEAC in April including folk musicians Campbell Jenson, Peter Rowan and Sarah McQuaid, Welsh Traditional Act The Trials of Cato, and country musician Mary Gauthier.

We also will be welcoming a Droichead production Port this Saturday and last weekend continued our monthly series More than Music with Ronan Browne and guest Steve Cooney.



Workshops and Other Events

Our second Pop Up Gaeltacht took place with 15 attendees.

We held a sold-out Furniture Upcycling Workshop with The Revamp Tramp.

Libraries

Fingal Studies



Fingal Local Studies and Archives are re-launching *Fingal Studies*, a local history journal dedicated to recording and uncovering the history of Fingal, from the earliest times to the present day.

It also aims to showcase the wealth of historical research and writing talent in the county. An editor and editorial board have been appointed and a Call for Papers has been issued. Originally published from 2010 to 2015, it will be re-launched as an annual journal in October 2024 during the Fingal Festival of History. The journal will be distributed through branch libraries with an e-book version also made available through BorrowBox

Children's programming



Creative workshops for children in April included a graphic novel drawing course with author and illustrator Alan Nolan, spring crafts workshops with artist Kim Jenkinson, journalling for mental health sessions with author Megan Wynne, Musical Tots sessions and sensory-friendly events. 'Spring into Storytime' story sessions with library staff took place as part of the national Right to Read programme, which promotes literacy and reading development.

On 16th May, students from Blakestown Community School, Scoil Mhuire Senior School, and St Philip's Mountview, will visit Blanchardstown Library for an afternoon with comedian and celebrated children's book author, David O'Doherty. This special occasion celebrates the One Book, One Community project, where pupils from different schools come together to explore the themes and characters in David's book 'The Summer I Robbed a Bank'. This project involves paired reading sessions as well as literacy and art activities. Children will get to meet the author for a reading and Q&A session in the library.

Literary Events



Novelist Anne Griffin joined author Dermot Bolger for a discussion of her writing in Malahide Library on 13th April. Louise Nealon discussed her novel *Snowflake*, this year's choice for One Dublin One Book, with author Kerri Ní Dochartaigh in Blanchardstown Library on 16th April. One Dublin One Book aims to encourage everyone in Dublin to read a designated book connected with the city during the month of April every year.

Bealtaine Festival



Fingal Libraries will celebrate the Bealtaine Festival 2024, Ireland's national festival of the arts and creativity for older adults, with over 31 events and workshops taking place across the library network during the month of May. This year's programme begins on May Day, 1st May, with a guided walk of Turvey Nature Reserve, Donabate, with Birdwatch Fingal.

Musical events include concerts by Bohemian Strings and Rush Musical Society Singers, in addition to an African Percussion workshop. There is a broad range of creative workshops and classes on offer including art, smartphone photography, crafts, sustainable flower arranging, gardening, poetry, and creative writing. People can also sign up for Tai Chi sessions and classes on how to play bridge. The Bealtaine programme features talks by author Éilís Ní Dhuibhne and the Balbriggan Heritage Group, as well as talks about genealogy and assistive technology. Fingal Library staff will facilitate e-services clinics to help people get the best out of library e-services.

Commemorations Funding

Minister Catherine Martin T.D. has approved a grant funding allocation of €15,000 (€5,000 of which is for an Arts initiative) for every local authority in 2024. This funding will support community-led commemorative initiatives to mark the centenaries of locally significant historical events in 1924 and in the early years of the State, as well as other significant anniversaries and associated themes. The Fingal project will concentrate on local government in North Dublin/Fingal in the early years of the State and will result in an arts commission, a publication, exhibition, and talks.

Cruinniú na nÓg

Cruinniú na nÓg is the national day of creativity for children and young people and will take place on 15th of June. This year, highlights will include the library programme with over 20 events for children across library branches including storytelling, makerspace activities, movie making workshops and more. Orchestral Odyssey will see a full orchestra visiting schools in Swords and a performance piece in the Carnegie Library. Garage Galaxy will bring a youth festival to Millennium Park, where young people can showcase their musical talents on two stages.

Autism-Friendly Libraries

Fingal Libraries are in the process of making libraries more autism-friendly, with the guidance of autism charity AsIAm. This process will involve further training sessions for library staff and AsIAm accreditation for libraries.

Book Bike Project

The Fingal Libraries Book Bike project has a €15,000 grant from the Chief Executive Innovation Fund. With the funding Clíodhna from Libraries and Emma from Active Travel will purchase an electric cargo bike and begin the process of outfitting it for its new role as a Fingal Libraries Book Bike. The Book Bike will be an excellent promotional tool, particularly at festivals like the Fingal Festival of Children's Literature later in the year.

Landscape oil painting on display at Balbriggan Library



Balbriggan Library are thrilled to display a beautiful landscape oil painting by Sean Molloy called 'The Banks' in the Turret Room – one of meeting rooms in the Carnegie part of the Library. Sean is a Fingal artist and was commissioned to paint this prominent coastal site in Balbriggan, known locally as the Banks. The painting is part of the Fingal County Council Municipal Art Collection and was produced as part of a public art commission initiated in collaboration between Irish Rail, Our Balbriggan and Fingal County Council's Arts office.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Fingal Skills Strategy

Preliminary planning is underway for the 2024 **"Xplore Your Future TY Expo"** which will be held in The Helix, DCU on the **15th of October 2024** with procurement underway for the provision of event management support services for the event.

Invitations to the Expo have issued to TY School Co-Ordinators in the Fingal area.



A contract for the engagement of consultants to prepare the next iteration of the Fingal Skills Strategy 2024 – 2029 has been awarded and work on the new Strategy has commenced with the completion of the Project Inception Document.

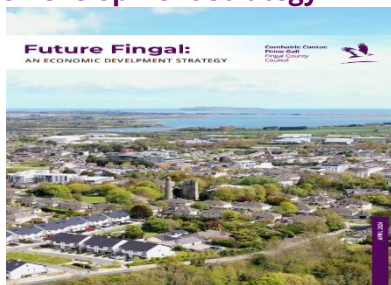


A Delegation from Fingal County Council recently travelled to Florence, Italy (Lead Partner) of the SKYLA Project to share examples of Good Practices and learn from partner Good Practices in the green and digital twin skills transition.

Fingal County Council shared two Good Practices with our project partners which were identified in collaboration with key stakeholders DRSF and Baldoyle Training Centre.

The Fingal SKYLA Project team intend to further examine the shared Good Practices by our partner Skane Industrial Development Centre in Sweden who shared their "Mind the Gap" tool which assists in identifying specific needs in the business region and in doing so offers collective results that could be made available to the education system and VET providers. Mind the Gap assists in matching between supply and demand when it comes to skills development and VET in the region.

Economic Development Strategy



The Future Fingal Economic Development Strategy builds on the socio-economic profile prepared as part of the Fingal LECP process and sets out a vision, key opportunities and actions to support the local economy to 2040.

Preparations are underway for the official launch of the Economic Development Strategy scheduled for the 17th of May in the Carlton Hotel, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15.

To align with the Economic Development Strategy work is also ongoing on the development of a Marketing Plan for the County in consultation with key stakeholders.

URBACT – EcoCore



Fingal County Council is leading the URBACT EcoCore Project which comprises a network of 9 small cities/towns in Europe focussing on challenges and opportunities for green growth and sustainable economic development along transport corridors. Balbriggan is the lead town and the other partners committed to the network are Albu Iulia, Romania; Dubrovnik, Croatia; Kekava, Latvia; Ormoz, Slovenia; Parnu, Estonia; Santo Tirso, Portugal; Tuusula, Finland; Villena, Spain.

Fingal County Council has recently been selected by EMRA to host the URBACT National Campus comprising a two day networking event which will be held in Balbriggan later this year.

The EcoCore Project

The EcoCore Project Team accompanied by Deputy Mayor, Cllr Gráinne Maguire and Chief Executive of Fingal Chamber of Commerce (members of the Project ULG) travelled to Santo Tirso, Portugal for our third transnational city visit.

Santo Tirso is a region famed for its industrial magnetism, not a result of luck, but of the strategic proactive and evidence based approach taken by the Municipality to attract investment.

There were many good practice examples demonstrated during the visit to Santo Tirso and invaluable learnings for the Balbriggan delegation.



Santo Tirso: Learnings

- Invest Santo – one stop shop for Investors/Future Fingal Economic Development Strategy.
- Fast tracking industrial development – "MUNICIPAL INTEREST PROJECT".
- Fabrica Santo Tirso – multi purpose Innovation and Incubation space.
- Public/Private Partnerships – Garcia Garcia
- Pro-business mindset
- Pro-active Marketing Approach
- Strong Stakeholder Engagement



Citizen, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (Cerv)

CERV is an EU Funding Programme for citizens' engagement and the implementation of EU rights and values. Fingal County Council has been awarded CERV funding to participate in 2 separate projects, which commenced in January 2023 and will continue for 18 months.



Green It Your Work

Work is continuing on the objectives of 'Green IT Your Work' project which are:

- Youth Debates about European Digital Age project highlighting the role of young people in the green transition
- Promote green jobs with the aim of contributing to greener European cities



Following a very successful meeting in Balbriggan in March 2024, the next Green IT Your Work meeting will take place in Kocevje, Slovenia in May 2024 with a focus on *Green Portals for You(th)*.

Representatives will be present from Romania, Spain, Greece, Cyprus, Slovenia, Croatia, Italy and Ireland.



GREEN IT YOUR WORK

InclusEU

The InclusEU project aims to encourage volunteer action as a social response for an inclusive Europe. Work continues on the project with partners from Italy, Poland, Hungary, Spain, Portugal, the Netherlands and Romania. Representatives from Fingal's Sports Office and Foroige attended Viana do Castelo, Portugal, in April with the Italian event taking place in June 2024.



Sustainable Fingal



The Council met with representatives from DCU and DAA in March to discuss a work programme for 2024 to progress sustainable projects and work in ongoing to identify projects and potential funding streams.

A further meeting was held with the DAA in April to explore opportunities between both organisations for synergies on biodiversity and circular economy projects. The Council's Biodiversity Officer was also in attendance.



Work continues on the development of an action plan to advance the objectives of Circular Cities in Fingal. Fingal's profile has been published on the Circular Cities website and the first annual report on Fingal's transition to the circular economy under the Circular Cities Declaration was submitted in October 2023.

The Circular Cities Declaration 2024 Report has now been published featuring Fingal County Council as one of the signatories to the Declaration.

[CC Declaration | Fingal County \(circularcitiesdeclaration.eu\)](https://circularcitiesdeclaration.eu)

Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor



Fingal County Council's Feasibility Study for the development of regional innovation/enterprise hubs along the Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor has been completed. The Council continue to liaise with DBEC to consider potential funding streams to progress the implementation of the Study's recommendations and has submitted a concept proposal to the Enterprise Ireland Smart Regions Fund for a priming grant for a pilot implementation of the recommendations. Fingal County Council continues to liaise with DBEC on a series of potential projects for DBEC.

Enterprise Ireland – Smart Regions Funding

The Council has submitted 5 no. concept proposals to the Enterprise Ireland Smart Regions Fund. Concept proposals include applications under Stream 1 for Capital Infrastructure Investments in the Council's Enterprise Centres and Under Stream 4 for Feasibility Studies/Priming Grants.

LOCAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT



Fingal Local Community Development Committee

The Fingal LCDC continues to oversee and administer the key areas of LEADER and SICAP and the various Local Development and Community Development funding programmes under its remit. The LCDC also manages the Healthy Ireland Initiative and the Social Enterprise Grants Scheme. The LCDC met on the 7th of February 2024 and reviewed progress on various programmes under its remit, approved the SICAP end of year 2023 review and discussed the annual plan for 2024 which has been forwarded to Pobal for review.



An Roinn Forbartha
Tuaithe agus Pobail
Department of Rural and
Community Development

Fingal Local Economic Community Plan 2023 – 2028

The LECP was adopted by the Council in January 2024 and includes a two-year LECP Implementation Plan with actions to implement the Goals and Objectives set out in the LECP.



Local Enhancement Programme 2024

The Local Enhancement Programme 2024 which is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development allocated a total of €220,842.98 in funding to community groups/organisations within the Fingal administrative area.

The LCDC Evaluation Committee met and a report of successful applicants has been issued to the Department for approval.

The Minister of State at the Department of Rural and Community Development is due to announce the successful applicants in the coming weeks.



We Can Quit

Healthy Fingal have teamed up with Empower to deliver two pilot We Can Quit programmes with the Blanchardstown Training Centre and the Tolka River Project, Mulhuddart. The We Can Quit programme, was developed by the HSE and is aimed at encouraging people to quit tobacco/vaping. The programme with the Tolka River project started in January 2024 and will run for 10 weeks with participants enrolled to take part in both quit smoking sessions and weekly yoga sessions to encourage a healthier lifestyle.



Woodlands for Health

Healthy Fingal have partnered with Mental Health Ireland, HSE, Empower and the Sports Office to organise the Woodlands for Health walk. The programme brings service users from the HSE mental health services and other key target groups in Swords & Balbriggan to Newbridge Demesne to interact with other service users and avail of health expertise in the calming and quiet atmosphere of the walking paths around the park. The programme is due to start in May and run for 10 weeks.



Community Recognition Fund 2023/2024

The Community Recognition Fund (CRF) 2023, funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development, approved the Council's project proposals in March 2023. Fingal County Council has received an allocation of €1,748,912 for 26 projects across Fingal.

All projects are required to be complete by 18th October 2024 and work is progressing on the implementation of the project with the Council submitting an initial drawdown in 2023 of €243,000 with a further drawdown of €176,000 submitted in respect of works completed to date in 2024.

In March the Council received an allocation of €1,538,573 in respect of the **Community Recognition Fund (CRF) 2024**. The funding will support capital projects which will be delivered over the time period 2025/2026. The fund aims to recognise the contribution made by communities welcoming and hosting arrivals from Ukraine and other countries.

A public funding call (call 1 of 3 calls) issued in early April 2024 followed by an online information webinar. Call 1 has now closed and all applications received will progress to the Evaluation Committee for consideration.

SICAP



The new SICAP contract for the provision of the SICAP programme over the period 2024-2028 has been awarded to Empower CLG and contracts have been signed.

The annual SICAP budget for 2024 is €1,520,811 and there is a separate funding provision for new arrivals to the value of €375,372. The SICAP Annual Plan for 2024 has been approved by the LCDC and reviewed by Pobal.



Leader Programme

Following the outcome of the Local Development Strategy (LDS) selection process Fingal LCDC and Fingal LEADER Partnership were selected to run the LEADER Programme 2023 – 2027 in the Dublin rural area. The Dublin Rural LEADER (LAG) includes rural areas in the administrative areas of Fingal, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown and South Dublin.

The new LEADER programme launched at the end of February, following the signing of the LEADER Funding Agreement by the Minister for Rural & Community Development, Heather Humphreys, TD. The new Dublin Rural LAG met for the first time on the 27th February 2024 and were briefed on the new LEADER Programme by Fingal LEADER Partnership.

The Dublin Rural Leader team have scheduled an online information session on the LEADER application process and an overview of the procurement process.



ENTERPRISE CENTRES

Fingal's Enterprise Centres continue to participate in ConnectedHubs.ie a one-stop-shop for remote working hubs throughout Ireland.

To inform the Council's future policies on such facilities, the Council is currently undertaking a survey of residents and organisations in the County with regard to the demand of co-working hubs. It is a short 5 minute survey as per the link below:

<https://surveys.grantthornton.ie/s/Fingal-County-Council---Remote-Working-Hub-Survey/tt-9o8eai8mAr3SY9ojkWzv76>



All three Enterprise Centres have space available to start-up businesses and businesses/individuals who wish to avail of remote working options and facilities. Bespoke options or generic office fitouts can be considered. Occupancy rates at the Council's three enterprise centres are all over 90%. The three Enterprise Centres currently support 65 businesses and over 320 direct jobs.

Fingal County Council was approved for €50,000 in new funding to promote Remote Working Hubs in the County under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme Marketing Measure. A cross-departmental team within the Council have implemented initiatives to promote Fingal as a Remote Working Hub base for remote workers with an active marketing campaign carried out during Q1. across various media platforms and includes an article in the Business Post, radio advertisement and significant coverage across a range of social media platforms.

TOWN REGENERATION OFFICE

Our Balbriggan 2019 - 2025 Rejuvenation Plan – A Socio-Economic Strategy



Dr. David Begg was appointed Chair of the Balbriggan Leadership Group following the departure of Brian MacCraith earlier this year. The Balbriggan Leadership Group provides oversight and stewardship for the town plan's implementation. A 'Review and Renew' process, conducted by the Leadership Group, of the town plan, its governance and delivery structures is due to be completed shortly.

The review process confirmed the extension of the Rejuvenation programme until 2030, bringing it in line with its main funder the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, URDF unit. Further, the review process has confirmed new governance arrangements for existing, merged and new Pillar Groups.

The Our Balbriggan Programme Office will support the Leadership Group and its five new pillars - Economic Development, Public Realm & Placemaking, Education, Skills & Employment, Community and Sustainability, Climate Change & Biodiversity, as part of the 'Renew' process to develop high level objectives and actions to be adopted in Q4 and implemented 2024 - 2030.

Contracts were signed between Fingal County Council Ltd and John Craddock Ltd on 29/04/2024 for the €15 Million transformation of Quay Street, Harbour & Environs. The contractor will be on site in early May 2024 and the project is due to be substantially completed by December 2025.

A Communications plan including an update to every Balbriggan household and business has commenced and includes detailed information on alternative car parking and frequently asked questions, all materials are available on Balbriggan.ie



A call for tenderers for 2 - 4 Dublin Street is scheduled for June 2024. 2-4 Dublin Street is to be transformed into a new Creative Hub with 8 workspaces at 2 Dublin Street and an ancillary connected space at 4 Dublin Street which will support STEAM education, training and enterprise activities supported by SMART Balbriggan and the Fingal Arts Office. Planning permission was granted at council in October 2023.



Demolition works on 14 Bridge Street (house known locally as Keelings) have been completed and a temporary Pocket Park has been installed. Demolition contractors continue excavation works to the rear of 6a - 14 Bridge Street.

An Integrated Design Team has been appointed and a project initiation meeting is scheduled to take place in May 2024. The IDT will look at preparing a design based on best possible uses and options in line with site constraints. Early and on-going stakeholder engagement will commence shortly to inform options and will continue throughout the design process.



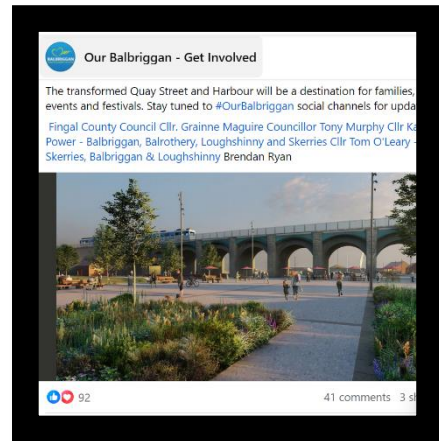
Donnelly Civil Engineering Ltd and MWP Engineering have delivered a package of improvement works at Balbriggan Harbour. The main Harbour upgrade works and shoreside services are complete, with some lighting improvements awaiting final completion further to new electricity connections. ESB have been on sight in early May.

The programme office is progressing the phase 2 element of the Balbriggan Tidal Pool and Swimming Platform Feasibility Study. Phase 2 will include an economic demand analysis. To be concluded in end Q3 2024.

An Internal Project Team has been established from the Town Regeneration Office, Our Balbriggan and FCC Architects to progress the Boathouse and Bathhouse project. FCC has met with local stakeholders and potential end users for the Bathhouse and Boathouse. Enabling works commenced in February. Works include full surveys and assessment of the site, which will inform the full works design and planning proposal.



The Our Balbriggan Office continues to generate regular and unique content across all social media channels, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn with over 5.1k followers on Facebook.



Lár Bailte ar dTús
Town Centre First

Town Centre First – Lusk

The structure, membership and Terms of Reference for the Lusk Town Team were agreed in the third quarter 2023. Together with the Town Team there are three Pillar Groups representing the Community, Business and Economy and Public Realm / Climate Action & Sustainability (to include Vacant & Derelict Buildings). Consultants were appointed to support the preparation of a new Town Plan and to work with the Community, Businesses and Public Realm Pillars in Lusk to get their views for inclusion in the new town plan. The Town Centre First Plan for Lusk was signed off on by the Town Team on the 25th April. The plan will be noted at the next Local Area Committee Meeting before being published.

Two applications for Project Development Measure funding have been submitted to the Department of Rural and Community Development for their consideration. These applications, if approved, will support the development of projects listed within the Plan.

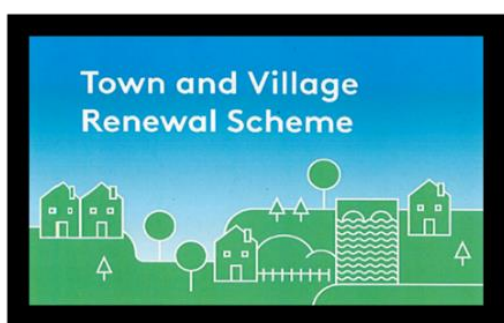
Town Centre First – Rush

At the National Town Centre First Day held 28th February in Limerick, the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphries T.D. announced that Rush had been selected as Fingal's second Town Centre First Town. The Town Regeneration Office welcomes the selection of Rush as a Town Centre First Town and engagement with the Local Elected Members, the Community and the Business Sector in Rush will be invited shortly to establishing a new Rush Town Team. This new Town Team will prepare a new Town Centre First Plan for Rush. During March, there was a walk-about in Rush by the Town Regeneration Office team, local elected members, Rush Tourism and Rush Community Council.



Town & Village Renewal Schemes

The Town Regeneration Office was notified in April that two applications under this scheme from 2023 have been successful. A Phase 4 development of Floraville Park in Skerries (€55,800) and upgrades to the Rush Community Centre (€64,350) have been approved by the Department of Rural and Community Development.



In 2023, the Town Regeneration Office completed the implementation of projects in Rush, Donabate, Oldtown, Naul, St. Margaret's and Balrothery. With respect to these 6 schemes, the local authority has invested €282,276.00 in total funding drawn down from the Department of Rural and Community Development to support the revitalisation of our Rural towns.

Streetscape Enhancement Scheme 2024

Streetscape Enhancement Scheme 2024 was launched on the 15th March, 2024 and expressions of interest were sought from qualifying commercial and community premises located within areas designated as "Major Town Centre", "Town and District Centre", "Local Centre" or "Rural Village" within the Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029. Under the scheme, up to 50% of the cost of improvements, up to a maximum grant amount of €1,500 per eligible property, is available, subject to terms and conditions. A total of 40 applications were received by the closing date and are currently under review. Organisations who expressed their interest will be notified of the status of their applications in the coming weeks.

Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme

An application under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme for a feasibility study for facilities for sea swimmers in Skerries was successful in November. In March 2024, the Town Regeneration Office has commenced the study process by engaging with local stakeholders, gathering and collating feedback to inform future options and study scope. A request for tender document has been prepared and the formal procurement process is now underway.

Urban Regeneration Development Fund Call 3

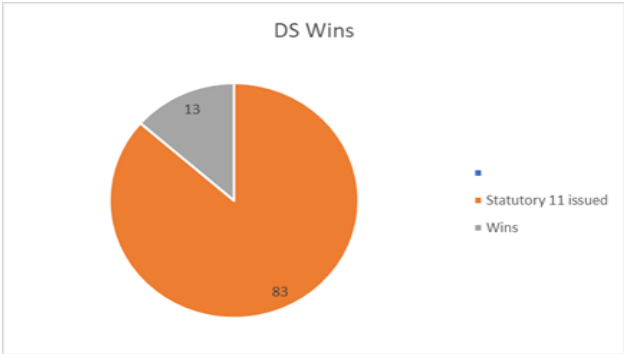
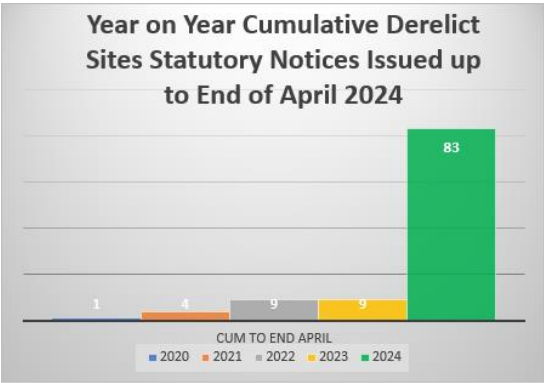
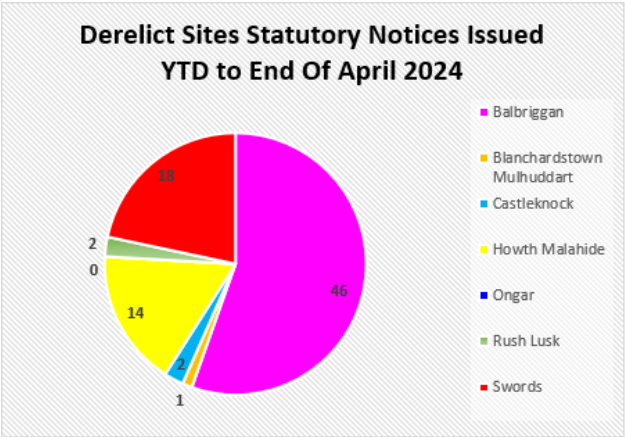
In 2023, the Town Regeneration Office was successful in securing €7 million for a new revolving fund that will acquire vacant or derelict properties to renovate, bring back into use and sell back into the market for housing purposes. An initial 19 properties under this fund have been approved for inclusion by the URDF Call 3 Fund administered by the Department of Housing Heritage and Local Government.

A further 5 properties were approved by the Department of Housing, Heritage and Local Government in February. These are being assessed and progressed where appropriate. A further 20 properties are under consideration to be added to the list of properties going forward. In April 2024 the Council was notified that an additional €3 Million had been allocated to fund this Call.

Derelict Sites

83 statutory notices have issued to owners of Derelict properties to the end of April 2024. This shows a significant increase in notices issued by the Council compared to a total of 7 at this point in time in 2023.

The Derelict Sites team continue to focus on engagement with the owners of these existing derelict sites and identifying further derelict sites across the county.



The Derelict Sites Section actively encourage the reporting of potential derelict sites. Referrals can be made by accessing the Report Form on Fingal County Council’s public website and emailing the completed form to derelictsites@fingal.ie

LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE



LEO Fingal provides a broad suite of support services to stimulate enterprise and enable small businesses to succeed. Some of the LEO highlights for May 2024 are as follows:

Fingal Business Network



The Fingal Business Network will meet on Friday 10th May in the Carlton Hotel Dublin Airport. The theme of the meeting is “Using AI for Business” and will explore the transformative potential of Chat GPT, Microsoft CoPilot and Gemini by Google in enhancing business operations, improving customer engagement, and driving innovation. Participants will discover practical AI applications that can streamline processes and boost competitive edge. The session will also include some valuable facilitated networking sessions, providing opportunities to connect with like-minded professionals and industry leaders.

National Enterprise Awards 2024



The National Enterprise Awards is taking place in the Mansion House, Dublin City Centre on Thursday 23rd May 2024. PRM Assist will represent LEO Fingal as the winner of the Fingal Enterprise Awards. PRM Assist based in Dublin Airport is a global leader in innovative Passenger with Reduced Mobility (PRM) services within airport environments. We wish Conor Halpin and the team in PRM Assist all the very best in the National competition.

Student Enterprise Programme



Twenty-six second level schools across Fingal competed in the 2023/2024 Student Enterprise Programme. Over 1300 Fingal students developed their own real-life businesses, researching, resourcing and trading services and products, with the guidance of business mentors. Loreto Secondary School, Balbriggan and Mount Sackville will represent Fingal at this year's Student Enterprise Programme National Final which takes place in Mullingar on May 9th.

Fingal Enterprising Women Network

The LEO Fingal Enterprising Women Network is hosting a "Mind, Body and Business" themed lunchtime networking event on June 20th at the Portmarnock Resort Hotel. Three experts will feature in a panel discussion focused on optimising female business performance.

The panel will cover health improvement strategies, evidence-based techniques for building habits and workflows, and discuss smarter working methods. This summer event is a great opportunity for Fingal's businesswomen to connect and gain valuable insights from shared experiences.

Meanwhile, LEO Fingal is making preparations for the 2024 National Women's Enterprise Day which is scheduled to take place in the Crowne Plaza, Blanchardstown, on October 17th.

Fingal Business Supports Briefings



The monthly Fingal Business Supports Briefing continued on 10th April in the Riasc Centre Kinsealy. 30 small business owners & entrepreneurs attended on a very wet morning where they heard about the supports available to them from the Local Enterprise Office and other state agencies. The next business supports briefing is scheduled for Tuesday 7th May at the Riasc Centre, Kinsealy.

Food Supports



LEO Fingal is hosting the latest Dublin region Food Starter programme, which commenced on 8th April 2024, working with small food producers who are starting out on their food business journey. The Food Starter programme is the industry specific Start Your Own Business training for the food sector.

As part of the programme, businesses are given a thorough grounding in what is required to set up their business, including the health and safety implications and how to capitalise on market opportunities. Participants also benefit from the network of other food businesses on the course and leave with a new set of mentors and business advisors to help them on their journey.

Evaluations and Approvals Committee

The Evaluation and Approvals Committee (EVAC) has approved €300,074 across 12 Business Feasibility, Priming and Expansion Grants to date in 2024. Eight Technical Assistance for Micro Exporters grants to the value of €20,000 and two Digital for Business grants amounting to €9,000 have been approved year to date. The next EVAC meeting will be held on 29th May 2024.

Management Development

LEADERSHIP FOR BUSINESS ACCELERATION



The Leadership for Business Acceleration Programme provides an exceptional opportunity for SME Owners and Managers to build on the necessary leadership skills and knowledge needed to successfully compete in existing, new and international markets. This highly successful “International Best Practice” training programme which commenced on March 26th is delivered to small groups by way of onsite skills development workshops and online workshops. As part of the programme, the owner/manager participants each produce Work Based Assessments which document their strategic plan and acts as a living document as well as a point in time reference for where their business is now and the actions they need to take to grow.

Energy Efficiency Grant Scheme



Applications are open for the Energy Efficiency Grant Scheme, which enables small businesses to invest in technologies and equipment to make their businesses more energy efficient. The grant will cover up to 50% of the costs to a maximum amount of €5,000. The goal is to reduce the impact of small businesses on the environment and help them to reduce costs to enable them to become more competitive. As part of the process, applicants complete the Green for Business Programme, a customised initiative whereby the business develops a strategy to become sustainable.

Trading Online Voucher Scheme



An initiative under the Government’s National Digital Strategy, the Trading Online Voucher (TOV) scheme supports small businesses by allowing them to enhance their online offering by providing a grant of up to €2,500 for ecommerce and digital marketing activities, as well as giving businesses a better understanding of how they can exploit E-Commerce opportunities for their business. A total of 37 applications have been approved in the amount of €84,609 to date in 2024. The next Trading Online Voucher seminar will be held on Friday 17th May in Riase, Kinsealy.

Business Advice Clinics and Mentoring



LEO Fingal provides one to one business support services through Business Advice Clinics and a Mentoring programme, both online and in person. These services are provided free of charge to small businesses. The Fingal mentor panel consists of a variety of skilled and experienced mentors from a range of business backgrounds. So far this year, 268 clients have availed of one-to-one advice in our Business Advice Clinics. The Mentoring Programme has already seen 144 clients receiving expert mentoring so far this year.

Microfinance Ireland Loans

LEO Fingal provides a loan scheme through its partnership with Microfinance Ireland, with loans of up to €25,000 per approved applicant. LEO Fingal is actively promoting the availability of loans from businesses that have difficulty raising finance from their bank. Applications are processed and assessed by LEO Fingal and submitted to MFI (Microfinance Ireland). Applications submitted through LEO Fingal are eligible for a reduced interest rate. LEO Fingal has processed and submitted 7 MFI loan applications to date in 2024.

Training and Events

2024 training is continuing apace with over 1,530 participants in events year to date. The fourth Start Your Own Business course started on April 22nd bringing to 48 the number of participants at the multi-day event YTD. There have been two Social Media and Digital Marketing QQI courses with 24 participants year to date and a third course will start in mid-May.

Internationalisation and Export Development



Five Fingal businesses are currently participating in the 2024 Export Development Programme. The purpose of this programme is to provide clients with the skills and the confidence to identify, target and exploit new business opportunities in the Benelux Region. The most recent workshop “Selling Skills” was held in the Carlton Hotel on 17th April with very positive feedback from participants. In addition, the TAME (Exporter) grant enables small businesses to explore and develop new market opportunities by providing up to €2,500 to businesses investigating and researching export markets. Eight Fingal businesses have been approved for Export Grants (TAME) for Quarter 1 2024.

Fingal Business Expo

Partnership with Fingal Chamber, Business Expo to take place Sept 2024 (date TBC). Featuring Meet the Buyer, open mentoring/business advice clinic, exhibition of enterprises and supports to enterprise.

OPERATIONS

Contents
Works Programmes
Car Parking Services
Burial Grounds Services
Traffic Operations County-wide
Fleet Management & Plant Hire Unit
Street Lighting LED Programme
Recycling Centre Update
Licences
Surface Water
Meetings / Briefings/Other

Works Programme Balbriggan / Swords Area

Balbriggan Area Parks



The Square Ballyboughal



Mourne View Skerries

As part of the 2024 Programme of Works, two walls that face onto public open space have been refurbished from the original block finish into natural stone finish. There are additional improvements planned as part of future programme of works.



As part of the 2024 Programme of Works, a telescope has been installed in Harbour Park, Rush, Co. Dublin.



Rose Garden Ardgillan

As part of the ongoing capital improvement works in Ardgillan Demesne, the Rose Arbour is undergoing a refurbishment plan.



Ardgillan Demesne Playground

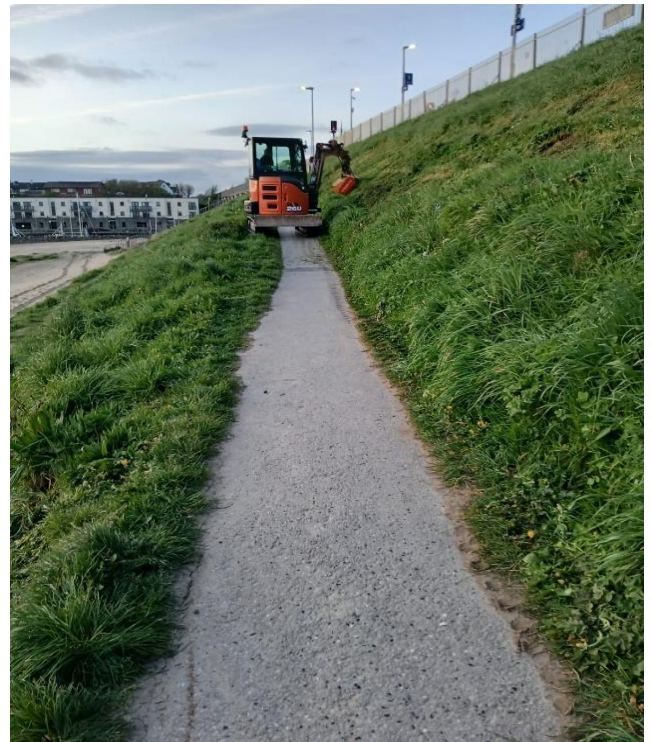


Ardgillan Demesne Playground

As part of the countywide retro fitting into Fingal public playgrounds with universal access playground equipment, a WeGo Swing which is wheelchair accessible and includes seating for friends and carers to join in the fun, was installed in Ardgillan Demesne playground



As part of the 'Our Balbriggan' initiative and following recent discussions with the local Sea Swimming group, the outdoor shower and changing space is currently under construction.



Operations staff from Balbriggan carrying out grass maintenance on the railway bank at Balbriggan Beach

Swords Area Parks



A newly installed Library Trail in Santry Demesne funded by the Community Recognition Funding Initiative.



The official launch of a new pedestrian entrance and pathway in Newbridge Demesne on 15th April 2023. The works on the ground were carried out during 2022 and 2023 and involved the installation of more than 500 linear metres of new pathway linking the Hearse Rd gate to join up with the existing path at the corner of the deer park and linking into the Lime Kiln at the Newbridge Avenue pedestrian entrance.

This new pedestrian entrance involved designing a bespoke design staggered corral entrance arrangement, which allows accessibility for wheelchairs, buggies and bicycles, but ensures that the animals within the parkland paddocks cannot access the Hearse Road if they were to escape their paddock.

New directional and interpretive signage have also been installed along with natural cobble surround. An avenue of native trees was also recently planted along one side of the pathway, bordering a native woodland plantation which was planted by volunteers in 2023.



Tree planting and bulb planting at St Patricks Park Donabate as part of the 2024 Programme of Works



Newly installed seating in Santry Demesne Walled Garden



Grass Cutting finally commencing on sports pitches in Holywell Park in Swords. The unusually wet Spring has caused enormous delays in all grass cutting of public open spaces countywide. The initial priority will be to get the sports pitches under acceptable maintenance standards and then to move onto the residential open spaces. It will take the crews up to 6 weeks to catch up on a regular maintenance regime, and then only if the weather stays reasonably dry.



Newbridge Farm

A new addition at Newbridge Farm. A recently born Connemara pony as part of the Irish & Rare Breed Strategy for the farm.

Harbours

Loughshinny Buoy maintenance. New chains added and cleaned.



Structural Inspection at Balbriggan



Area Roads Programme

Rush

Road resurfacing works carried out on Channel Road, Rush as part of the 2024 Programme of Works.



Swords

Road surfacing and ancillaries for Elmwood Road and Glasmore Park,



Mooretown, Swords, road resurfacing works part of 2024 Programme of Works.



Resurfacing works at Seatown Lane, Swords, which is part of 2024 Programme of Works.



Resurfacing works at Nevinstown Airside Swords which is part of 2024 Programme of Works



Footpath repair works at Hilltown Grove, Rivervalley being carried out by direct labour.



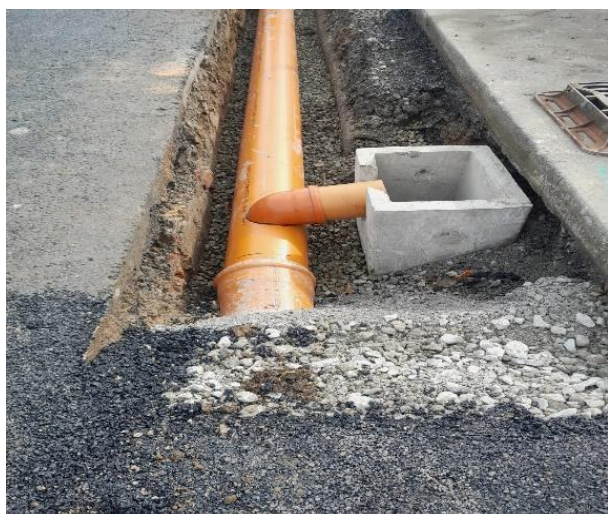
Road resurfacing works at Castlegrange Swords, for which is part of 2024 Programme of Works



Skerries



Drainage works completed in Miller's Lane, Skerries as part of 2024 POW Special Works Programme. New gullies and drains installed, and full lane reinstated as part of works



Public Conveniences Balbriggan/Swords Area

The Part VIII planning process for replacement toilet facilities at Rush South Beach was approved by the full Council at its April meeting. Civil works on site will commence in early May, followed by the installation of the unit which is constructed off site. It is anticipated that the new facilities will be fully operational by the start of the Bathing Season in early June.

Reports in relation to screening for Appropriate Assessment and Environmental Impact Assessment in respect of proposed facilities at Portrane and Donabate beaches have been received and will be reviewed by the Planning Department as part of the internal planning consultation. Once concluded, we will move to commence the Part VIII process for each of the two sites.

Site surveys have commenced at the sites of existing public conveniences at Rush, an Skerries Harbour and Loughshinny in order to progress plans for these locations.

Howth Malahide Area Programme of Works

Grey's Lane in Howth was inlaid as part of the 2024 POW. The roads crew installed additional road drainage and gullies in advance of the inlay. The defective road kerbs were also replaced in advance of the works.

In addition, the water services drainage crews replaced a collapsed foul sewer in advance of the inlay to avoid excavating the freshly resurfaced road.



Connolly Avenue Footpaths

The defective footpaths in Connolly Avenue were replaced as part of the 2024 POW by a contractor.



Malahide Demesne

- New Callisthenics Unit in Malahide Demesne



Depot Works

Fingal County Council Roads replaced defective concrete footpaths in The Rise Kinsealy.



Páirc Bhaile Trá - Baltray Park

Recently installed calisthenics units in Baltray park, six in total were installed. A wonderful amenity within walking distance of Howth and Sutton, this park has an amazing view over Ireland's Eye while exercising.



New Calisthenic units in Kettles Park



Twelve Calisthenic units installed in Kettles Park, some with an extra feature of digital screens to show user information - mileage, pressure strength etc. while exercising. These are well spaced around the edges of the park, to use on long or short walks.

Burial Ground Works



Grass Cutting and Maintenance has resumed with the improved weather conditions.

Beaches & Cleansing



The lifeguard huts are being installed back in place on the beaches in advance of the summer bathing season.

Public Toilets – Howth East Pier & Malahide Beach
The Public Consultation period for both Projects commenced on 26th March 2024. The notice, plans and particulars describing the nature and extent of the proposed Howth East Pier and Malahide Beach Toilets developments were made available for public inspection. The Display Period concluded on the 25th April whilst in accordance with Section 251 of the 2000 Act, the submissions period concludes on 9th May 2024. A briefing to the Howth Malahide Area Elected Members will take place following this.

The Chief Executive Report for each Project will be presented to the Full Council Meeting on 13th May 2024.

Castleknock Mulhuddart Area



Lanesborough playground was officially opened on the 29th of March, the operations department will be providing a daily service to Lanesborough seven days per week which includes litter picks, emptying of bins and daily visual inspections of the playground along with a once weekly playground equipment inspection.



Clean-up along Damastown Avenue along footpaths and Grass verges



Tree planting been carried out at Parslickstown House and Blakestown Community Centre

Assisting community group Hazel Lawn



Assisting Clonsilla Tidy Towns – planting a hedge on Clonsilla Road



New Drinking Point recently installed in Beechpark open space.

Grass cutting on open spaces surrounding newly taken in Charge area Hansfield Park



Further grass cutting been carried out on the football pitch in Lanesborough Park opposite the new playground.



Fantastic colour display resulting from our Autumn planting on the Power City Roundabout.



New Coppice of trees recently Planted in St Catherine's Park by Operations Coolmine, to add to our ongoing Tree Planting Programme



Bluebells at Fire station at Coolmine. All our hard Autum planting is now in full colour.

Car Parking Services March 2024

There was a total of 1072 parking tickets issued during March 2024.

Breakdown of Parking Offences

Top 10 Offences

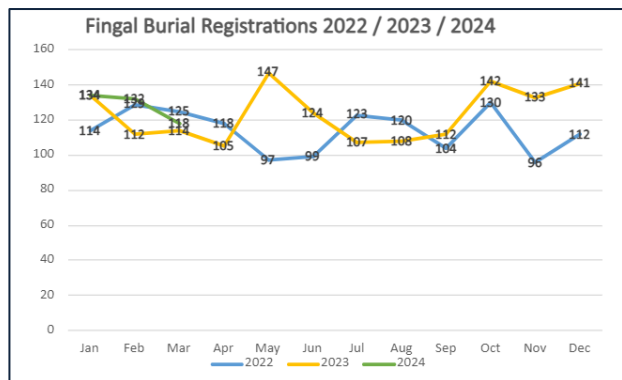
Offence	Main Ticketing Offences - March 2024
9A - A VEHICLE COMMITTING AN OFFENCE CONTRARY TO PAY AND DISPLY/PERMIT PARKING	592
08A - PARKING A VEHICLE ON A FOOTPATH	108
9A - A VEHICLE OUT OF TIME TICKET	106
04G - PARKING A PRIVATE VEHICLE IN A LOADING BAY	106
9D - PARKING A VEHICLE ON A DOUBLE YELLOW LINE	61
9F - PARKING/STOPPING A VEHICLE IN A DISABLED PERSONS PARKING BAY	17
17A - PARKING/STOPPING A VEHICLE AT A SCHOOL ENTRANCE	16
9C - VEHICLE OUTSIDE BAY	15
07A - OBSTRUCTION TO OTHER ROAD USERS/PEDESTRIANS	15
04C - PARKING A VEHICLE IN A TAXI BAY	9

Top 10 Locations

Location	Main Ticket Locations March 2024
Bridgefield Car Park - Malahide	86
North Street - Swords	83
Main Street - Swords	69
South Strand Skerries	45
The Green - Malahide	44
Old Street - Malahide	43
Coast Road - Malahide	41
Harbour Road - Skerries	39
Strand Street - Skerries	37
St James Terrace - Malahide	36

Burial Ground Services

The Operations Department are continuing to administer and monitor delivery to ensure business continuity for Fingal's Burial Ground Service. There were 118 Interments in March 2024.



Kellystown Burial Ground

Tenders for the proposed works at Kellystown Cemetery are currently being evaluated.

Once the tender evaluation is complete, it is anticipated that work will commence on site, by end of June, subject to the successful tenderer's work schedule.

In the meantime, members of the public who are waiting to place family members ashes in the planned Columbarium Wall can now register with HowMalOpArea@fingal.ie.

In advance of the completion of the Cemetery, however, burial plots, cannot be purchased in accordance with the Burial Ground By-Laws 2023.

Traffic Operations County-Wide

Castleknock/Mulhuddart Area

➤ Traffic Signals



The works are progressing on the Coolmine roundabout, with the inclusion of a raised zebra crossing one each arm of the roundabout. The works are due for completion in May.

Balbriggan/Swords Area

➤ Road Markings and Signage



R132, Balbriggan- New 80km/h speed limit signage.



R132 Hedgestown, Lusk, Dublin- New 80km/h speed limit signage.



Chapel Street, Balbriggan-New 50km/h speed limit signage.



L1285, Baldongan- New warning sign sharp bend ahead.



Hearse Road – 'Keep Left' signs replaced on Traffic Island Chicane



St. Teresas Catholic Primary School Balbriggan. Installation of 'School' keep clear markings, school warden crossing markings and double yellow lines.



R128 Station Road- New 'SLOW' road markings.

Howth/Malahide Traffic POW 2024



New Yellow Box by junction of Seamount Road and R124 – Malahide



New Anti-Parking Metal Bollards in Bloomfield Malahide by Community School



Pedestrian crossing upgrade works at Junction of Binn Eadair and Dublin Road crossing. Works are now completed.

➤ Road Markings Howth Malahide



Keep Clear by Junctions of Strand Road with Hazel Grove/Court



On going new Lining and refreshing in Howth Village as shown above

Fleet Management & Plant Hire Unit

84 vehicle and plant hires were put in place from 01/04/2024 to 26/04/2024, engaging 20 suppliers.

Street Lighting LED Programme

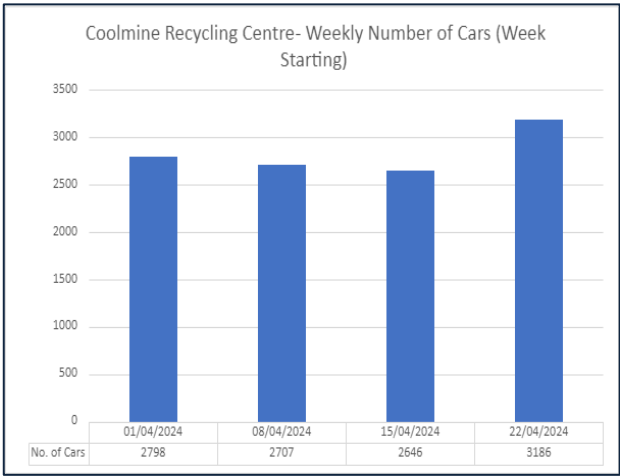
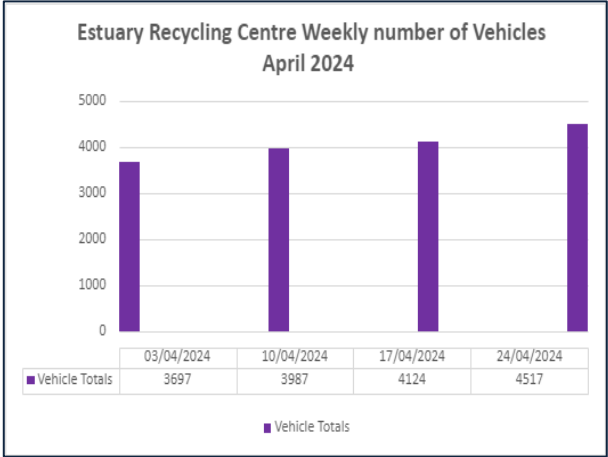
The Public Lighting Section has completed the LED upgrade programme of Fingal County Council owned lights.



The Programme of Works 2024 has now commenced. The sensor-controlled lighting with remote monitoring system on the Royal Canal between Ashtown and the Old Navan Road, was commissioned at the end of March and is fully operational. There are 83 no. lights on this scheme. See below stills from the video taken by the supplier of the dimming system in operation along this towpath.



Recycling Centres Update

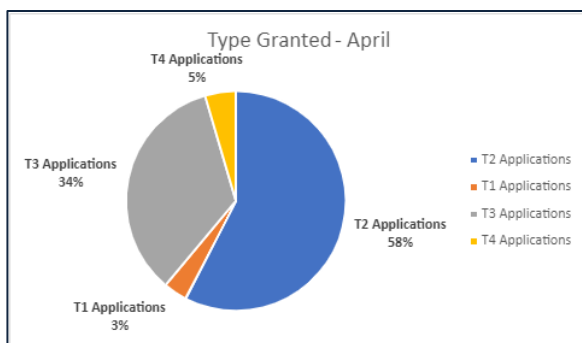
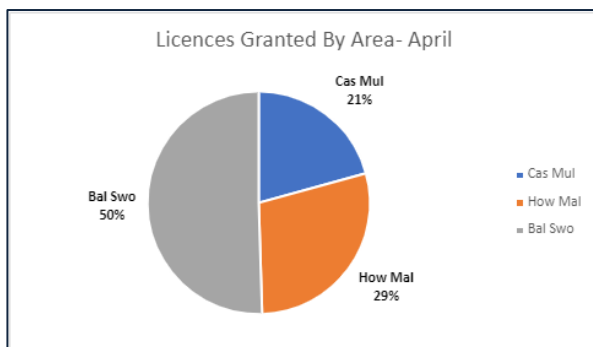
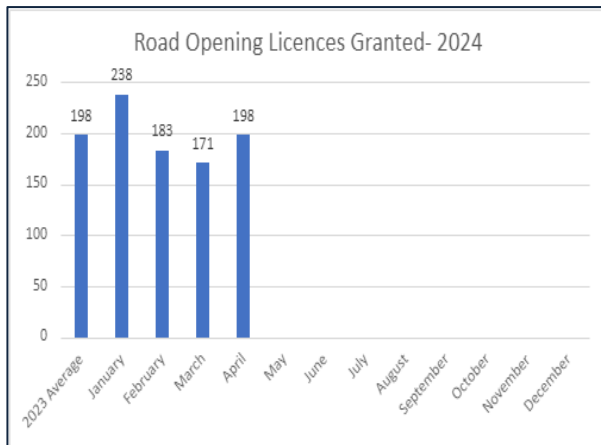


Licenses

- Road Opening Licenses

The Licensing unit continues to process and manage the licensing system for the County. Applications are allocated by area for examination and conditioning which includes reviews of the existing carriageway, footpaths, cycleways, and grass verges. Applicants submit temporary traffic management plans for review to ensure all works are carried out safely within the public domain. Road Opening Licences are a cross functional process for the department and are essential for the asset management of Fingal County Council Road network.

198 Licences were granted in the month of **April**, **39%** of which were granted by way of **automation**. Clerk of Works in each area continue to carry out regular inspections following road opening works by Utilities.



- Casual Trading License

Fingal County Council have a total of 31 valid Casual Trading Applications for 2024/2025 trading year throughout Fingal administrative Area covering the trading of Hot Food Tea & Coffee/Ice Cream and Flowers.

5 more additional applications are currently being processed.

Any remaining applications will be taken on an Ad Hoc basis.

The Operations Department is in regular communication with our traders and area inspectors to assist in delivery of quality service and ensure compliance.

Street Furniture Licences



A total of 32 Street Furniture Licences have been issued in 2024 with a further two currently been processed.

Any new street furniture applications will be dealt with on an ad hoc basis.

The Operations department are carrying out inspections throughout the administrative area and continue to engage with businesses to ensure compliance from Street Furniture Licence holders.

Surface Water

Stormwater Capital Programme 2023-2025

Fingal County Council are continuing to progress projects recently adopted in the 2024-2026 Stormwater Capital Programme. The 3-year programme includes 17 projects estimated at €2.5 million with this figure under review as the projects are developed. Below is a brief update in relation to the status of some of the projects that have commenced and planned upcoming projects.

➤ **Howth Stormwater Culvert**

Preliminary design reports are being updated with received survey information and updates of associated drawings. An Investigation and Optioneering report for Work Package B has been approved by FCC. A GPR survey will be procured to finalise design and progress contract documents. Investigation and optioneering, followed by design and tender documentation for Work Package A (the main works) will follow. An updated programme is due.

➤ **Burrow Beach**

The proposed remediation of the surface water outfall pipe has gone through all stages of design and various consents. Due to receipt of non-conforming tenders a non-competitive procurement procedure is being followed for the supply of anchor blocks.

However, the works window for Spring 2024 was missed and construction has been rescheduled for Spring 2025. Works will be executed by FCC Direct Labour with technical assistance to be provided by design consultants.



- **Lusk Network Remedial Works**

The above project consists of Stormwater infrastructure provision and improvement in the Lusk urban area. It will include second level/follow up investigation, surveys, non-invasive interventions jetting, root removal, pipe lining, replacement and new lay – using conventional cut and cover plus reinstatement of surface.

To date Direct Labour crews have completed the first tranche of repairs on localised damaged pipelines. Sections of the network along **Station Rd & Dublin Rd** have recently been surveyed and dye-tested. The findings from these surveys are currently being analysed. Most of the repair/replacement will be undertaken By Direct Labour with some input by contractors. The overall project is likely to take 24 months to complete.



➤ Clonsilla/Mulhuddart Network Improvements

Following historical reports of flooding CCTV surveys were carried out to determine the condition of the Stormwater infrastructure in the **Rusheeney and Manorfield estates in D15**. So far, several large restrictions have been found and a manhole was completely blocked with household waste. Following attempts to remove a blockage robotically, the line must now be excavated to remove this blockage. Quotations are currently being sought from Contractors. Additional collapsed sections have also been identified in other locations along the same network.

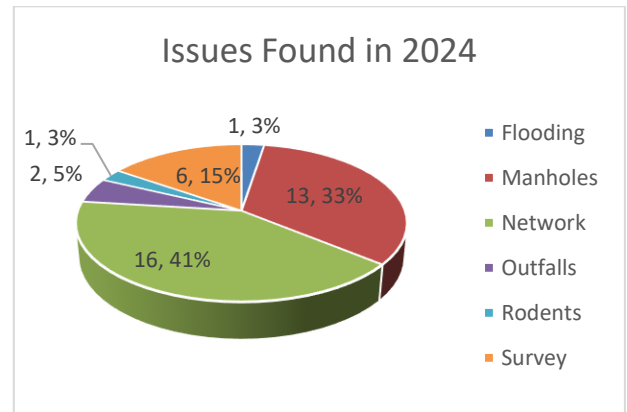


Carpenterstown Road SW Pipe Refurbishment

Following survey work and analysis in 2023, various remedial works were identified for sections of network along Carpenterstown Road. These include part liner repairs on damaged sections. Following tender issue in March, submissions have been evaluated and the appointment of a Contractor is in the final stages. Works will be planned to commence during May.

- Storm Water Maintenance

Maintenance of the network and much of the capital works programme is generated by inspections which are tabulated on a Works Planner. The types and volumes of issues reported are shown in the chart.



- Storm Water Connections:

9 new connection applications including one diversion application have been processed to date in 2024.

Lusk - Barrack Lane

To address historical road flooding along Treen Hill & Minister's Road. CCTV surveys were carried out and restrictions were identified along **Barrack Lane**. In total 60m of damaged and collapsed pipeline has been replaced and the roadway has been permanently reinstated. An 8m part liner repair was installed during April and this completes all outstanding works in this area.





Donabate

Maintenance work was undertaken on the **Beaverstown stream** to remove restrictions and clear and overgrown ditch to create storage and to remove flow restrictions, thereby alleviating risk of road flooding. Further examination of the catchment will follow to improve surface water management.



Malahide/Portmarnock

Chalfont - CCTV surveys are currently being carried out to ascertain the condition of the network within the estate and the cause of localised road flooding during periods of intense rainfall.

Coill Dubh - Following reports of footpath flooding along the R124, a Contractor has been engaged to carry out surveys of the local network.

➤ Assets

Ironworks

The Stormwater manhole cover and frame replacement programme for replacing assets at the end of life is ongoing. 15 Nr manhole cover and frames (C&F) are being replaced along the Swords Rd in Malahide. A Contractor has been procured with works commencing in March. Offline replacements were carried out in Columbus Rise and Elmwood Road in Swords. The Stormwater unit also supplied 12 Nr manhole C&F to replace existing older poor condition assets for the recent road resurfacing on Strand Street in Skerries.

- Water Quality

Seagrang Park

Assistance and engagement are being given by the Storm Water Unit to *Baldoyle Tidy Towns* who had secured funding for a Biodiversity project on the Seagrang Park stream, Baldoyle.

Drainage Inspectors are still assisting with this matter. Further sampling was carried out to narrow down the area of focus or to eliminate potential sources of contamination.



Meetings/Briefings

Briefing will be given to Howth/Malahide Councillors on the new public conveniences in Howth and Malahide Muldowney.

PLANNING AND STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE (PSI)

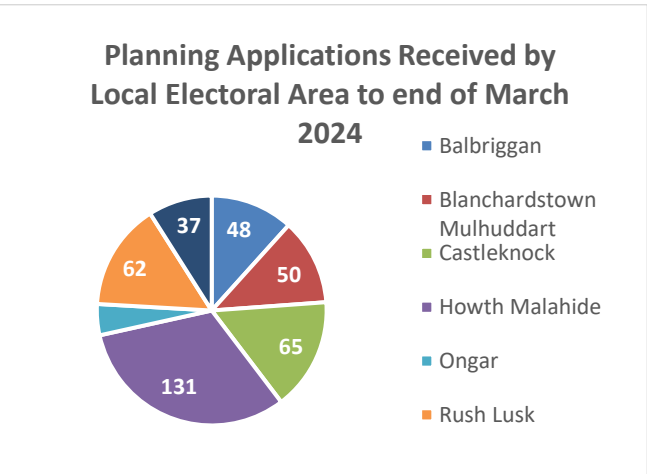
Contents
Planning Applications
Planning Decisions
Building Control Admin
Strategic Policy Unit
Built Environment Division
Transportation Planning
Parks & Green Infrastructure Division

Planning Applications

There have been 411 planning applications received from 1st January 2024 to 31st March 2024. This is including 18 E applications via the LGMA portal. 120 applications were invalid leaving a total of 316 valid applications. The volume of applications received by Local Electoral Area (LEA) is detailed in the table below.

From 1st January 2024 to 31st of March 2024 there have been no Large-scale Residential Development (LRD) full applications made to the Local Authority. From 1st January 2024 to 31st of March 2024, 5 decisions have been made on Large Scale Residential Developments. Of these 5 decisions made, 3 have been to grant Permission (1,020 Units). 2 decisions have been made to refuse permission.

An Bord Pleanála have issued one decision on SHD applications in the period from 1st January 2024 to 31st of March 2024, this decision was to refuse permission. There are now four SHD's (3,932 units) remaining with An Bord Pleanála for decision.



Planning Decisions

A total of 308 planning decisions have been issued from 1st January 2024 to 31st Of March 2024. There have been 240 decisions to grant permission (78%) and 68 refusals of permission (22%). Included in the 240 grants there have been 20 grants of permissions in respect of single house construction, 136 grants of permission for domestic extensions/works, 27 commercial grants of permission, 6 retail grants of permission and 9 grants of permission in respect of housing developments of which 7 relate to developments. The breakdown of housing developments is outlined in the table below.

Year	Housing of 2-20 Units	Housing of 20-50 Units	Housing of 50-100 Units	Housing of 100+ Units
2024	7	1	0	1

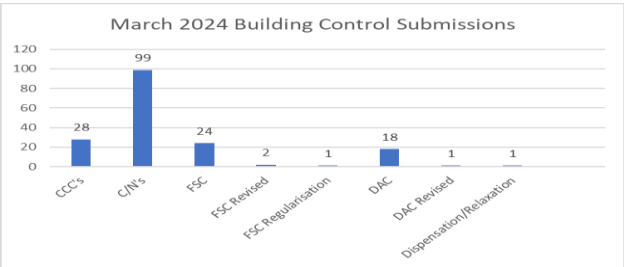
Building Control Admin

In March 2024, there were 174 building control submission made via BCMS.

This was made up of 99 Commencement notices, 28 Compliance of Completion Certificates, 27 Fire Safety related Certificates and 20 Disability Access related Certificates.

Commencement notices and Compliance on Completion Certificates are submitted through the Projects module on BCMS. Fire Safety, Disability Access, Regularisation and Dispensation/Relaxation Certificate applications can be submitted online via the Applications module on BCMS and we are also still accepting hard copy applications directly into the office. Most applications are now being submitted via the online system.

The Building Control Admin team processed 199 decisions in March 2024 relating to Fire Safety and Disability Access Certificates. This was made up of 37 decisions to grant, 1 refusal (FSC) and 161 extensions of time.



Strategic Policy Unit

Local Area Plans, Masterplans and Framework Plans

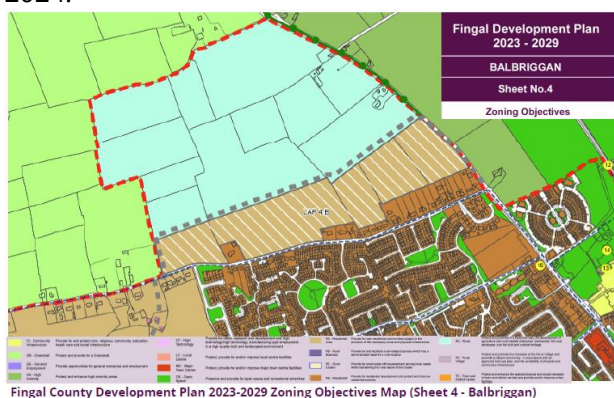
In July, the first round of Plans falling out of the development plan was agreed. This comprises Swords and Flemington LAP's, the Dunsink Plan, Kilbarrack and the Old School House Masterplans and the Stephenstown, Folkstown and Clonsilla Framework Plans.

Work has begun on the Flemington Local Area Plan and the Clonsilla Framework Plan.

Flemington Local Area Plan

The proposed LAP boundary has been designated in the Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029. Local Area Plans play an important role in setting the framework for the achievement of integrated and balanced communities within a specified area. They seek to provide the optimal development framework to ensure the protection and enhancement of the existing areas, key features and the environment within an area, while providing for a high quality living environment through the use of robust urban design principles. Fingal County Council has commenced the consultation process which is a key feature of the Local Area Plan process. The pre-draft consultation period ran from 1st February to 1st March. A targeted workshop for local members, landowners and community groups took place on Friday 2nd February and a very well attended information drop in session for member of the public was held on 19th February, 4pm – 7pm in Bracken Court Hotel, Balbriggan.

Work has now begun on the drafting of the Local Area Plan and it is hoped to publish this in summer 2024.



Clonsilla Framework Plan

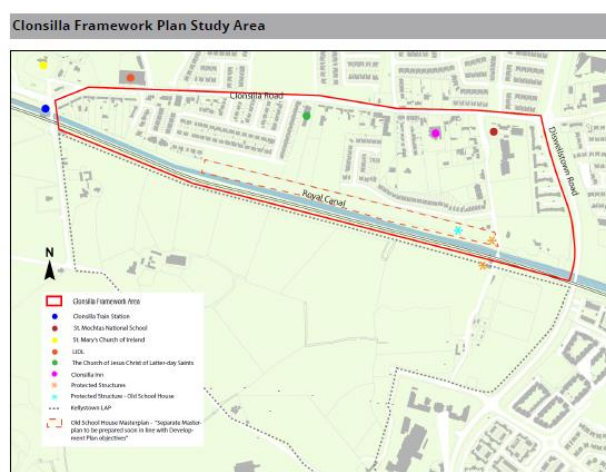
The Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 provides for an objective to prepare a Framework Plan for lands at Clonsilla (Plan Ref. FP 13.C).

The proposed FP boundary has been designated in the Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029 and includes an area of land south of Clonsilla Road/Larch Grove, bounded by Diswellstown Road to the east, Callaghan Bridge to the west and extends just south of the railway tracks.

The Kellystown Local Area Plan, located to the south of the Clonsilla Framework Plan area, was adopted in January 2021 and provides for the future development of that particular area. A specific and separate Masterplan will also be prepared for the Old School House area in the near future.

Public consultation is a key element in the preparation of the Clonsilla Framework Plan and the pre-draft consultation period ran from Tuesday 6th February to Tuesday 5th March. A targeted workshop for local members and community groups took place on Tuesday 6th February and a separate information drop in session for member of the public was held on 19th February, 4pm – 7pm.

Work has now begun on the drafting of the Framework Plan and it will be published in summer 2024.



Residential Zoned Land Tax

The Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT) is a tax aimed at activating serviced and residentially zoned land for housing. Local authorities are responsible for identifying the land that is subject to RZLT.

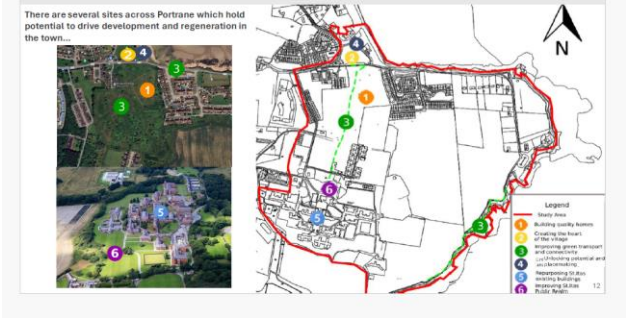
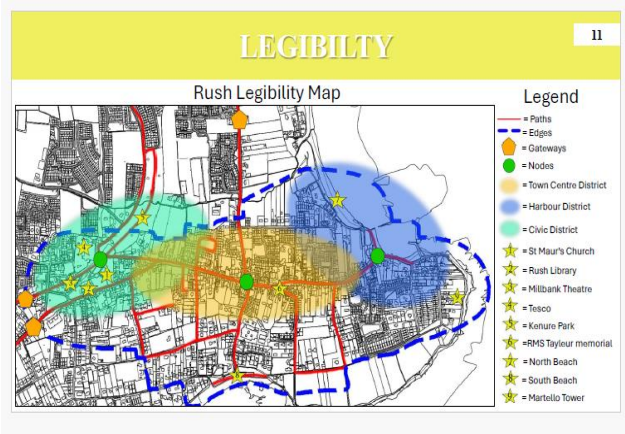
On 1st February 2024, Fingal County Council published the annual draft maps for 2025 identifying land currently in scope for the tax, land proposed to be removed from the current scope and land proposed to be added for the first time. 37 submissions were received by the closing date for submissions (1st April 2024). All submissions received in relation to the annual draft map have been published on the Fingal Consultation Portal. Where a landowner requests the exclusion of their site from the annual draft map on the basis that it does not meet the criteria for being in scope, or challenges the date from which land on the map met this criteria, the Local Authority must notify the owner of its decision not later than 1st July 2024.

An appeal of the Local Authority decision on a landowner’s submission on the annual draft map, must be lodged by the landowner with An Bord Pleanála by 1st August 2024.

It is noted that the second phase of the Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT) Annual Draft Map 2024 consultation remains open for landowners only seeking a land use zoning change. Submissions in this regard can be made up to 31st May 2024 (inclusive).

Queen’s University Belfast

The Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department recently welcomed planning students from Queen’s University Belfast. Six groups of MSc Planning & Development students visited Fingal and to carry out a study and analysis of Swords, Rush and Portrane. The results of their studies was published and presented to the P&SI Department in April.



Built Environment Division

Building Control/Taking in Charge Section – 30/04/24



- There were 17 building Control Inspections in April 2024 so far (up to 24th April) with 32 buildings inspected.
- There were 2 section 11 requests for further information following building control inspections, issued in April and there have been no enforcement notices issued.
- There were 4 developments taken in charge in the council meeting of 8th April 2024 (Riverwood gardens Carpenterstown, Emsworth Kinsealy Lane in Malahide, Golden Ridge phase 2 in Rush and Coopers Wood in Kinsealy.
- We have 7 developments scheduled for Taking in Charge in May 2024 – Barnageeragh Cove Phase 3 in Skerries, The Park in Skerries, Hyde Court in Rush, Lusk Village in Lusk, Thornleigh in Swords, Blackwood Estate in Ongar and Fairhaven in Castleknock.
- The Ongar remediation works are at substantial completion and we are working on the taking in charge drawings to take the estates in charge. We have the blackwood estate already up for taking in charge in May.
- The Mount Eustace and Cruise Park Taking in Charge works are complete, and we are working on the Taking in Charge drawings. We plan to advertise Cruise Park for the September meeting and Mount Eustace shortly after
- We are working on procurement documentation for consulting engineers to manage some of the large taking in charge works where we have bond money available.

Dangerous Structures

There were 5 dangerous structures notified in March 2023. There are a total of 101 dangerous structures active in our database.

Pictures



Inspecting steelwork in a ground floor slab of an apartment block in Charlestown.



Inspecting ceiling joists in a development in Dublin 15

Transportation Planning

PSI 001 Snugborough Interchange upgrade

The Snugborough Interchange is currently programmed to be completed at road level at the end of May 2024. The last element of the scheme to be completed will be the shared active travel route through the underpasses. FCC are waiting on Uisce Eireann to repair a watermain and this will delay the opening of the scheme at the lower level until late summer.

The scheme has been delayed mainly due to the complexity of the scheme and the number of utility diversions involved. South bound traffic on Snugborough road was relocated to the older N3 overbridge in late April following its refurbishment. In early May the traffic signals at the junction with Waterville Road will be switched on. This will allow the temporary roundabout to be removed and replaced with a new junction at the on ramp for the N3. Currently the junction at Main St is being formed into its final layout. Some of the current works which include surfacing, duct installation and road marking are being carried out in at night to limit impact on traffic flow. An update for the scheme was given to local Councillors in mid-April. Updates will be posted on the scheme web site www.snugboroughinterchange.ie



PSI 002 Ongar Barnhill Road

Bam Civil Ltd. have constructed some of the north and south abutment the proposed bridge over the railway. Many of the culvert units for the stream under the proposed Ongar Barnhill road have been installed. The construction of the road embankments will continue during May.

During the summer months it is intended to construct the northern part of the scheme between Barnwell Road and Barnwell roundabout. Improvement works were carried out to Barberstown Lane North and South during March in conjunction with the scheme. An update briefing for local Councillors was given in mid-April. Updates for the scheme will be posted on www.fingal.ie/ongar-barnhill



PSI-039 R132 Connectivity Project

Consultation with the National Transport Authority and with Transport Infrastructure Ireland regarding the connection with Metro Link is ongoing with Monthly meetings. Detailed design stage is underway and progressing as programmed. Meetings continue to be held with the various department of Fingal County Council to gather information for detailed design. The tender documentations have been published for CCTV drainage contractor and for the Ground Investigations to inform the detailed design process and de-risk the project.



PSI-005 Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian and Cyclist Route

Construction works is progressing on the Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian and Cyclist Route for this key infrastructure project for Balbriggan. The Project is now approx 50% completed. The work is ongoing and progressing well at three locations on the project on Hamilton Road, Harry Reynolds Road just south of the R122 and at Moylaragh Road.

An update project briefing for the Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian and Cyclist Route was held in early April with the local Councillors for the Balbriggan Electoral Area.

Another update project briefing has been arranged for early May with the local Councillors for the Balbriggan Electoral Area, members of the Residents Associations and tidy town committee on the progress and remaining programme of works for the Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian and Cyclist Route.

To assist with communication to the community a dedicated project website is setup which is updated throughout the project, highlighting the projects progression and key milestone stages; [Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian & Cycle Route Fingal County Council](#)



Works progressing on Harry Reynolds Road just north of Fingal Bay Business Park with Footpath and cycle track installed recently.

Consultancy Framework for Dublin 15 Walking and Cycling Projects

The Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Dept has commenced the procurement process for a Single Party Framework for Engineering Consultancy Services for Pedestrian and Cycling Route Projects in the Dublin 15 Area. The procurement process has now moved to Stage 2 with the tenders submissions recently received .



Figure 1 - View from Rail Bridge towards Granard Bridge and Blanchardstown



Figure 2 - Site Location

PSI – 004 Royal Canal Urban Greenway

Dialogue continues to be held with key stakeholders the National Transport Authority and Waterways Ireland along the route of the greenway to ensure a coordinated, high quality final design is achieved at interfaces between existing facilities and the proposed scheme.

The project is currently at preliminary design stage and requires the need to hold additional meetings with all the relevant key stakeholders to agree a revised design in lined with the new National Cycling Manual. These meetings will continue over the coming monthly to ensure a coordinated, high quality final design which compiles with the new cycling manual is achieved at interfaces between existing facilities and the proposed scheme. Landowner searches and land referencing are ongoing also.

Following completion of the preliminary design, all the required documents including the Environmental Impact Assessment Report will be prepared for a planning application to An Bord Pleanála.

S2M Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme

The preliminary design drawings are being finalised. The recently published Cycle Design Manual has led to some improvements being incorporated into the overall scheme design including revised layouts for crossings and bus stops to comply with the new standards. A surveyor has recently completed topographical surveys of public and private lands within the proposed scheme.

Ground Investigation Works will be required along the route at all locations where new structures are being proposed. These works have been procured and are scheduled to begin in May 2024. A tree surveyor will be procured in the coming months and a survey of all trees along the proposed route will be carried out. Following this process, the preliminary design can be finalised, and documents will be prepared for a planning application to An Bord Pleanála. Engagement with potentially impacted property owners, businesses and stakeholders is ongoing. A search of unregistered lands is ongoing for production of the deposit maps for the land acquisition. Draft documents are being prepared for the submission to An Bord Pleanála.



Artists impression for section of S2M Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme

Kinsealy Walking and Cycling Routes

The Kinsealy Walking and Cycling scheme aims to provide a high-quality walking and cycling route between Kinsealy and Portmarnock train station, and between Kinsealy and Malahide Castle and Gardens. The two walking and cycling routes will form a link from Kinsealy to sustainable transport at Portmarnock and Malahide Train Stations. The Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department awarded a consultancy framework contract to Barry Transportation for this project.

The Options Selection phase is progressing on both routes from Kinsealy (north towards Malahide and east towards Portmarnock).

Traffic and topographical surveys on public lands have concluded and the various constraints along all route options are now being analyzed, this will lead to the Emerging Preferred Route (EPR). A public consultation strategy is being planned to progress from the EPR stage to the Preferred Route stage and the ensuing statutory process required to deliver this project.



Fingal Coastal Way

Meetings between the Independent Agronomist and affected landowners with farming, equestrian and horticultural businesses are nearing completion. These meetings will identify site specific issues and opportunities with a view to agreeing the final position of the route in rural areas.

Preliminary design work is progressing along urban roads. Updated traffic counts in Skerries and Rush will take place in May.

Liaison with Irish Rail continues for the structure required to cross Rogerstown Estuary.

Broadmeadow Way Greenway

Contract for the manufacture and supply of precast concrete units for the 12-span 180m long precast bridge deck units awarded to Shay Murtagh Precast Ltd. Main estuary bridge Civil Engineering Contract awarded to Jons Civil Engineering Ltd.

Design options for the northern causeway have been developed using recently acquired ground investigation data from the ground investigation (GI) contract. These options will then be workshopped with the NTA and Irish Rail to seek approval to proceed with single preferred design option that meets the project objectives and ensure the safety and integrity of the railway causeway.

The Underwater Archaeology Unit in the Department of Local Government and Heritage have requested that Fingal County Council undertake an underwater archaeology desktop assessment as part of planning and foreshore commitments. Archaeological Management Solutions were procured. The study is complete and report will be finalised and issued to DHLGH. Brady Shipman Martin have been appointed as project ecologists for the Council. Various ecological surveys are being undertaken pre-construction, during construction and post construction. These surveys have commenced.

The Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage has advised that the Minister has approved the granting of the Foreshore Lease, Licence and Consent. Fingal County Council has received the documents for execution.

The OHLE mast strengthening works are nearing completion. Jons, Irish Rails Contractor for the main estuary bridge will be mobilising to site on 7th May. Progress on the detailed design phases of the various elements that form this project continue. Works contracts in Donabate, Malahide and the northern and southern causeway will take place in 2024, 2025 and 2026. It is expected that the greenway will be complete in 2026.



OHLE Mast Strengthening Works – Southern Access Haul Road – Broadmeadow Estuary

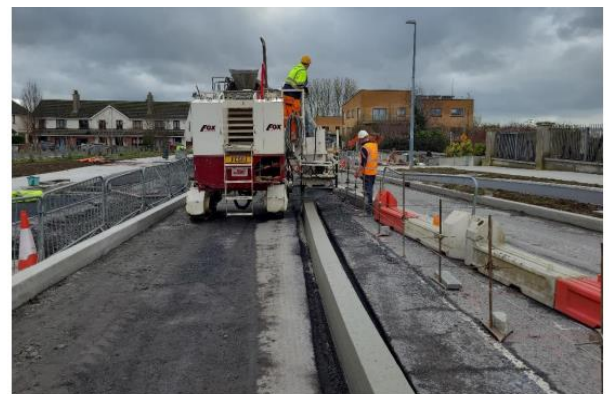
Church Fields Link Road

Works at the Church Fields Link Road and Cycle Network project, which includes the upgrade and reconfiguration of the existing Wellview Avenue, Damastown roundabout and the installation of 670m of high-quality pedestrian and cycling facilities through the eastern parklands linking up with existing networks and future proposed facilities in the vicinity, are progressing and nearing completion. Based on the Contractor's programme, the contract completion date is estimated as 30th July 2024. Substantial Completion is estimated for the middle of May 2024.

Recent works completed to date include the following:



Footpath installation - R121 to Cruiserath Road



Wellview Avenue – Centre Island Kerbing CH270

Turvey Avenue & Portrane Road, Donabate

Fingal County Council has lodged an application to An Bord Pleanála (ABP) for a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) for the Portrane Road Enhancement Project. Two landowner objections have been lodged with ABP in this regard. Further consultation regarding landowner concerns has resulted in one of the landowners withdrawing his objection. Consultation continues with the other landowner to try to reach an agreement.

The project involves works to widen the existing narrow footpath on the northern side of Portrane Road in order to provide a suitably wide and safe footpath for pedestrians to use in the vicinity of two national schools (St. Patrick's Boys National School and Scoil Phádraic Cailíní). The project also involves works to provide safe pedestrian crossings and appropriate traffic calming facilities. Subject to approval from An Bord Pleanála, the CPO will allow Fingal County Council to purchase privately-owned land that is required to widen the path and deliver the project. Fingal County Council awaits the decision of An Bord Pleanála in this regard. Separately, Priority Construction Ltd, working on behalf of Fingal County Council, has completed a significant amount of work on the Turvey Avenue Footpath Enhancement.

A new footpath has been built on the northern side of the road where no footpath previously existed. The new footpath provides a continuous and safe walking route along Turvey Avenue for pedestrians travelling to and from Donabate Village and train station. The project also includes drainage improvements, footpath improvements on an existing path nearby, road resurfacing, additional kerbing, line markings, speed ramps and signage. Work continues on site to finish off the remaining elements of the project, including hedge planting, tree planting, installation of driveway gates at affected properties, etc. The project is due to be substantially completed this summer.



Photographs of Turvey Avenue, pre and post works, note: new hedges will be planted behind new stone walls



Photographs of Turvey Avenue, pre and post works



Photographs of Turvey Avenue, pre and post works, note: new hedges will be planted behind new stone walls

Donabate Pedestrian Bridge

License agreements are being finalised with the developers of adjacent lands to facilitate access to, and construction of the bridge. Procurement for a main contractor for the works is nearing completion. NTA have allocated funding for this for 2024. Construction is expected to commence in the coming months.

Donabate Transport Projects

Fingal County Council has appointed Roughan and O'Donovan, a leading multi-disciplinary consultancy firm, to provide engineering, planning and environmental services for the Donabate Transport Projects, which comprise a number of major projects with the objective of improving transport and active travel infrastructure and road safety on the Donabate-Portrane peninsula.

The projects include:

- Phase 2 of the Donabate Distributor Road project, to improve access to Donabate and Portrane from the M1-Lissenhall Interchange for all road users, particularly vulnerable road users such as pedestrians and cyclists;

- Blakes Cross Junction Upgrade, to provide a safer junction layout that caters for both motorised traffic and active travel modes of transport such as walking and cycling;
- A study of the M1-Lissenhall Interchange, in collaboration with TII, to assess all technical and operational traffic issues associated with this strategic motorway junction;
- 7no. Active Travel Routes which encompass a number of related local projects which aim to increase local connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists.

Work on the initial data-gathering, concept development and option assessment stages of the Donabate Transport Projects is underway including topographical surveys of relevant areas of Donabate. Fingal County Council and Roughan and O'Donovan are currently analysing traffic data and carrying out traffic modelling on the M1-Lissenhall Interchange.

Separately, a number of potential route options have been identified for Phase 2 of the Donabate Distributor Road. These options are shown below and will be subject to multi-criteria assessment to determine the preferred route. Once the preferred route is established, a non-statutory public consultation will be held.



Further stages of work, relating to environmental assessment, planning consent, etc. will follow on in subsequent years as appropriate.

Parks & Green Infrastructure Division

Nature Based Solutions – Infrastructure

On Tuesday the 26th of March, Fingal hosted an international “NBSINFRA - City Labs Meeting”. Fingal County Council is participating in a EU funded international project called NBSINFRA (Nature Based Solutions – Infrastructure). Teams from several European countries are working on “*City Nature-Based Solutions Integrated for Local Urban Infrastructure Protection for A Climate Resilient Society*”. Fingal is partnering with University College Dublin on the Irish project which focusses on Sustainable Swords and the Ward River Regional Park Development Project to showcase the use of Nature Based Solutions to protect/increase the resilience of urban infrastructure. Around 20 people including representatives from Germany, Portugal, Bulgaria, Czechia and UNESCO attended the Fingal workshop which included a tour of Swords Main Street and the Ward River Valley.



Playground Updates

The completed Lanesborough Park Playground in Meakstown was officially opened to the public on Friday 5th of April last by Councillor Adrian Henchy, Mayor of Fingal.



Cardy Rock Playground in Balbriggan has been completed and will open to the public in the near future.



Works are ongoing at the Garristown Library Garden and Playground and on the Playground Upgrade works at Howth Promenade have commenced.

Heritage Officer

Ministerial Visit



Fingal received a visit from Malcolm Noonan T.D. Minister for Nature, Heritage & Electoral Reform in April 2024. It was an opportunity to showcase the heritage projects and cross departmental initiatives undertaken by Fingal County Council. The Heritage Officer highlighted the Community Monuments Fund; Digging Drumangh and Fingal's long-standing community archaeology programme; the Heritage X Climate project; Fingal Traditional Skills and the upcoming phase of Blas: Fingal's Food Heritage project.



Community Monuments Fund 2024

A total of €410,855 has been awarded from the Community Monuments Fund 2024 for five projects in Fingal. Under Stream 1 consolidation works that will take place at St Columba's towers, Swords (€120,000), Lanistown Castle, Donabate (€120,000) and Balrothery tower house (€110,905). Under Stream 2, conservation management plans will be undertaken for St Fintan's Church and graveyard, Sutton (€30,000) and St Douloughs church, Kinsealy (€29,950). The Community Monuments Fund has been instrumental in the preservation of our archaeological monuments for the future generations of Fingal. For more see <https://www.fingal.ie/community-monuments-fund-0>



Digital Heritage Projects

Accessible Heritage is a strategic objective of the Fingal Heritage Plan 2024-2030. This includes the digital context and in the use of innovative technologies. The Heritage Officer has worked with the Digital Officer to produce 3D tours of Malahide Demesne Church <http://fingal.ie/malahide-demesne-church> and Lanistown Castle, <https://my.matterport.com/show/?m=DgxGXmPv3Qy> which are not currently accessible to the public.



Howth Community Heritage Audit

The first Howth Story Drop was held on Saturday 20 April. There is a short survey to try and find out more about how Howth's heritage can be shared- <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Y2H6S8Z> The next 'Story Drop' will take place at the Old Courthouse on Saturday, 18th May, from 14.30 - 16.00, and all are welcome to come along and share memories of times past in Howth.



National Heritage Week

Registration for Events will open in May 2024. This years theme is *Connections, Routes & Networks*. This can include the physical-roads, rivers, trade, migration, as well as social networks such as sports and activities as well as natural networks such as native species and birds. For more see: [Home | National Heritage Week 17th – 25th August 2024](#)

HOUSING

Contents

Housing Supply
Asset Management
Support
Tenancy Services
Housing Ukraine Response
Vacant Homes

Affordable Home Purchase Scheme



Fingal County Council is making homes available for sale under affordable dwelling purchase arrangements across the County.

There is a strong pipeline for affordable housing over 2024:

Scheme	Partner	No. of Homes	Applications submitted to date
Balleally Rise, Lusk	Lagan Homes	21	206
Kilmartin Grove, Dublin 15	Glenveagh	36	305
Church Fields, Dublin 15	GEM	180	250
Balmoston, Donabate	Glenveagh	86	396
North County Homes – various locations	FCC	16	215
Aster Park, Rush	Ballymore	96	Portal to open May 2024.
Wilkinsons Brook, Dublin 15	LDA	57	Portal to open May 2024.

Balleally Rise, Lusk

On February 27th, Fingal County Council announced a new affordable home purchase scheme in Balleally Rise, Lusk. Fingal County Council has agreed with Lagan Homes to deliver 21 affordable homes in Balleally Rise, Hands Lane, Lusk, Co Dublin. The scheme will comprise of the following:

- 15 - 2 bed properties
- 6 - 3 bed properties

The application portal for this development opened on March 12th, 2024. The portal will remain open.

Kilmartin Grove, Dublin 15

On March 3rd, Fingal County Council announced a new affordable home purchase scheme in Kilmartin Grove, Dublin 15. Fingal County Council has partnered with Glenveagh Homes to deliver 36 affordable homes at Kilmartin Grove, Dublin 15. The scheme will comprise of the following:

- 22 - 2 bed properties
- 14 - 3 bed properties

The application portal for this development opened on March 19th, 2024 and its now closed since Friday 26th April 2024.



Church Fields, Dublin 15

Fingal County Council has agreed with GEM Construction to deliver 180 affordable properties at Church Fields, Dublin 15. The scheme will comprise of the following:

- 59 – 2 bed properties
- 121 – 3 bed properties

The scheme was advertised on the Fingal website and on Social Media on March 26th 2024. The application portal opened on April 9th 2024. The portal will remain open.



Balmoston, Ballymastone, Donabate

Fingal County Council has agreed with Glenveagh to deliver 86 affordable homes in Balmoston, Ballymastone, Donabate, Co. Dublin. The scheme will comprise of the following:

- 34 no. 2-bed units
- 52 no. 3-bed units

The scheme was advertised on April 2nd, 2024, and the application portal opened on April 16th, 2024. The portal will remain open.

Glenveagh hosted an information event on the 27th of April 2024 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Santry Lane for the Balmoston Housing scheme in Donabate. It was hosted by well-known architect Dermot Bannon. Fingal County Council staff attended the event and manned an information stand for Affordable Housing. The event had a great turnout.



North County Homes

Fingal County Council have made 16 homes available around North County Dublin under the Affordable Housing scheme.

This scheme was advertised on Social Media on April 12th, 2024. The application portal opened on April 26th, 2024. The portal will remain open.



Affordable Housing Sale Agreed/In conveyancing - Hayestown, Rush

Hayestown: 51 homes are now sale agreed in Hayestown, Rush with Phase 1 due for handover in the coming weeks. Manley Construction are hosting a Show House open day on Saturday 18th May 2024.



Turnkey Acquisitions

Fingal County Council is also actively engaging with Developers for opportunities to collaborate on Turnkey developments that are suitable for sale under Affordable Purchase arrangements.

Construction Programme

Summary of unit numbers in the pipeline	Units
Under Construction	416
Schemes with Planning Approval and Tender Stage	500
Planning and Design	694
Part V	581
TOTAL	2,191

Progress of Projects on Site

Following some months of contractual negotiations, sixteen homes are now in the process of being tenanted in Clonross, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15 in partnership with Clúid Housing.



133 homes delivered in Hansfield Station Quarter, Dublin 15 in partnership with Fold Housing



Tuath Housing – Construction Scheme at Kilhedge Lane, Lusk, Co. Dublin – 31 dwellings

Works are continuing on the 31 units in Lusk being constructed by Tuath Housing. This development is due for completion in early 2024.

Fingal County Council – Restoration of St Ita's Portrane - 14 units

Nine units have been completed and restoration works commenced on the final 5 units and are due for completion in mid-2024.



Fingal County Council – construction scheme at Bowden Court, Swords – 11 dwellings

Works are progressing at Bowden Court, Swords.



Fingal County Council - construction scheme at Ballough Place, Lusk - 10 dwellings

Works at Ballough Place, Lusk are progressing without significant delays.



Fingal County Council - construction scheme at Monastery Court, Lusk - 5 dwellings

Works are progressing at Monastery Court, Lusk.



Fingal County Council - construction scheme at Seatown Road, Swords - 16 dwellings

Works for the delivery of 36 homes at Seatown Road, Swords have begun. This work is being delivered in tandem with the delivery of the civic and cultural building for Swords Cultural Quarter.



City to City Exchange

Following a successful collaboration between the Housing Delivery team and the Economic, Enterprise, Tourism & Cultural Development Department, Fingal County Council were successful in an application for funding under the European Urban Initiative City-to-City exchange programme. The funding is facilitating a learning exchange between Fingal County Council and Helsinki City Council in March and May 2024. A team of five from Fingal County Council visited Helsinki in March and all members of the team gained significant learning and insight from the hosts.

Housing Europe recommended Helsinki as an exemplar for affordable housing initiatives in Europe. The city of Helsinki has a long track record of house building with the ability to influence housing supply as well as affordability. The City Council targets a balanced range of housing options for inhabitants while not being dependent on the market for delivery and also not excluding the private sector. It also prioritises new developments to be low carbon while actively retrofitting existing housing stock to become more energy efficient.

A return trip to Dublin by Finnish representatives will take place in May which will include meetings in County Hall, Swords and a site visit to new housing delivery site at Balmoston, Donabate.

**Housing Asset Management Report
Energy Efficiency/Retrofitting Programme**

Fingal County Council's Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme is progressing well. The 2024 Programme has begun with Phase 3 of the Strandmill estate, Portmarnock.

Feasibility & tender preparation works are currently underway in several other housing estates throughout the county for inclusion in this programme.

Additionally, projects are set to begin at Regles Court in Lusk and Whitestown in Dublin 15, following a successful tendering process.



Post-works – Strandmill Estate, Portmarnock (external wall insulation, new windows and doors)

Returning Dwellings to Productive Use

The number of casual voids within social housing stock which are currently in the re-let process is set out below:-

Voids for Re-letting	1 st May 2024
In the letting process	49
Undergoing re-let repairs	19
With County Architect for procurement of pre-let repairs	11
TOTAL	79

Planned Maintenance Programmes

Cyclical Maintenance - Scheme Painting

The Scheme Painting Programme provides for external painting and joinery repairs to Council housing stock and currently operates on a 6/7-year cycle. Works are currently reaching completion in Derham Park, Glover Court, The Lodge, Goldenridge and Chapel Street Flats and works are ongoing in Pinewood Green, Balbriggan.



Before (L) & after (R) Whitechapel Crescent

Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)

HAP continues to be the primary source of rent support for those in private rented accommodation. Fingal County Council has set up over 113 new tenancies in 2024 to date with approximately 4040 tenancies set up since HAP began in 2017.

The HAP team is on hand to deal with any queries from applicants and landlords in person at the Housing Department in the Fingal County Council Blanchardstown Office, by phone at 01 8905000 via the CCU or through email at hap@fingal.ie.

Rents

The new rent review process continues, and tenants are required to return their Rent Assessment Form with the relevant documents so that an assessment can be carried out and the correct rent charge applied to the account.

The Rent Arrears team is working methodically through accounts in substantial arrears to encourage tenants to engage with the Council in reducing their arrears. In cases where there is no engagement, despite repeated efforts, proceedings will progress through the legal arena, and to date, the Rents Section has secured two Possession Orders with 4 others due before the courts in June.

We have recently resolved two cases to a satisfactory conclusion for both the tenant and the council. Regarding the two possession orders secured, both tenants are engaging with the team to address their arrears.

The Rents team encourages any tenant who is having trouble paying their rent to engage with the Council to examine possible solutions. However, there are instances where tenants do not engage or make alternative payment arrangements, and, in those situations, the Council needs to take further action.

Housing Loans

The Local Authority Home Loan (LAHL) is a government-backed mortgage for first-time buyers and certain other applicants who are unable to obtain home loan financing from a commercial lender. Interest rates are fixed for the term of the loan and loan terms are available for up to 30 years. The LAHL can be used to purchase new-build homes (including affordable homes); second-hand homes & self-build.

Eligibility Criteria:

- **Income Limit** – Single Applicant = 70,000 / Joint Applicants = 85,000
- **Employment** – 2 years continuous employment / if joint application with a second earner, second earner to be 1-year continuous employment
- **Residency** - legal right to live & work in Ireland & be habitually resident in Ireland
- Insufficient Offers of finance from 2 commercial lenders
- 10% Deposit – 3% to come from own resource savings
- Satisfactory savings record
- Fresh Start Principle

Further information on the Local Authority Home Loan and the eligibility criteria can be found at www.fingal.ie/localauthorityhomeloan & www.localauthorityhomeloan.ie



Private Rented Inspections

The Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) have released 2024 targets for inspection of private rented dwellings. The most recent RTB data available to the DHLGH, which includes private rental, AHB and, where appropriate, student-specific accommodation, indicates that the number of tenancies to be inspected by Fingal County Council in 2024 is 4,711. Currently, 1,815 inspections have been conducted in 2024, with over 350 of them inspected in April.

The Private Rented Inspections team recently met with Arthurstown Construction (ACL) who were recently awarded the contract for the provision of inspection services of private rented dwellings. Fingal County Council look forward to continued engagement with Arthurstown Construction to support the inspections programme, achieve 2024 targets and improve on compliance.

Housing Tenancy Services Report

Housing Support and Housing Position

Housing List positions for 2024 were issued on 17th April for all social housing applicants with an active Social Housing Application. The list positions were issued through the CBL portal. Applicants who do not have access to this portal should contact Choicebasedlettings@fingal.ie to request their unique username and password.

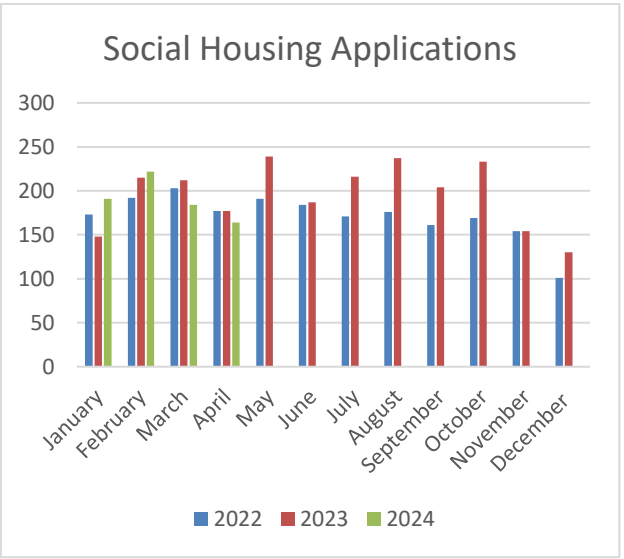
These list positions are static and will be updated again in 2025.

Changes to Income Eligibility Thresholds

By Circular 48/2022 and changes being implemented via the Social Housing Assessment (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 2022, the Social Housing Eligibility Bands increased with effect from 1st January 2023.

Housing applications received year to date.

January – April 2024	767
January- December 2023	2,354
January - December 2022	2,051

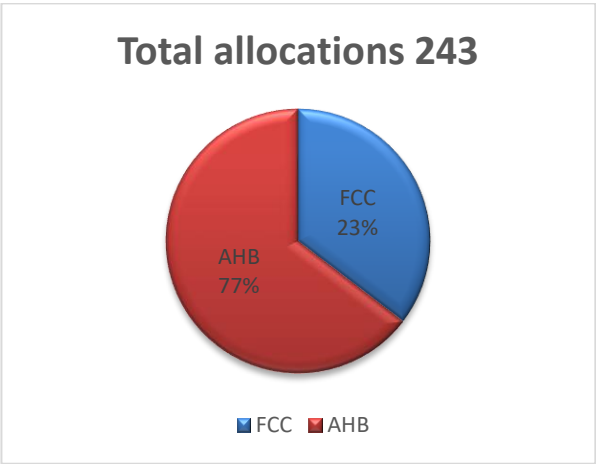


Housing Support Appeals

Applicants are reminded, that an appeal must be received within 28 days of a decision being communicated in writing to be eligible for review.

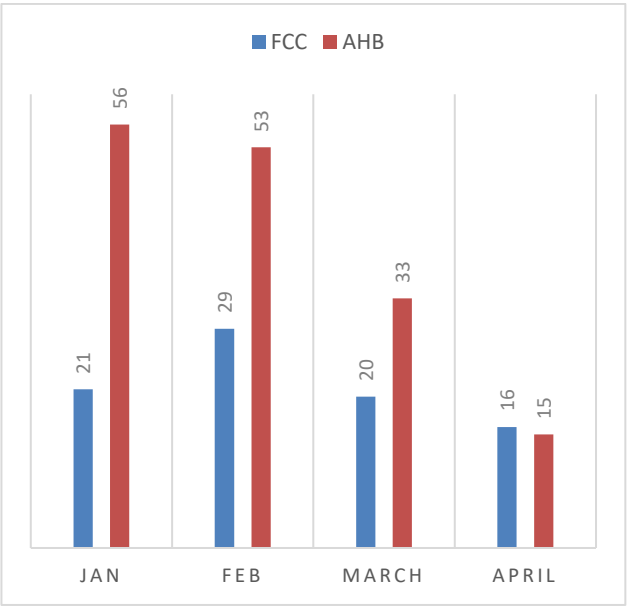
An email address has been established to facilitate the submission of appeals about housing support applications by applicants e.g., closure of social housing applications, transfer of tenancy, income limit queries, medical priority, and transfer applications. Applicants can email – Housing.Appeals@fingal.ie.

Lettings

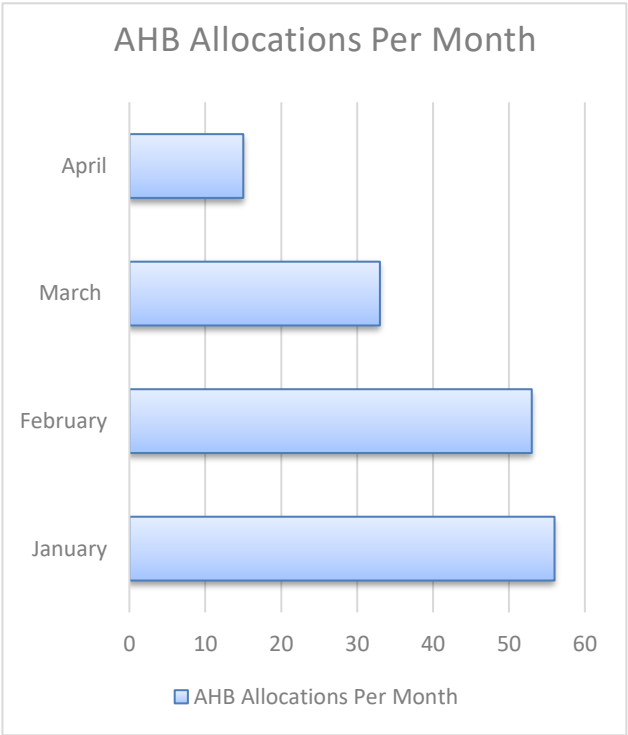


The above chart depicts the total number of properties allocated since the beginning of 2024.

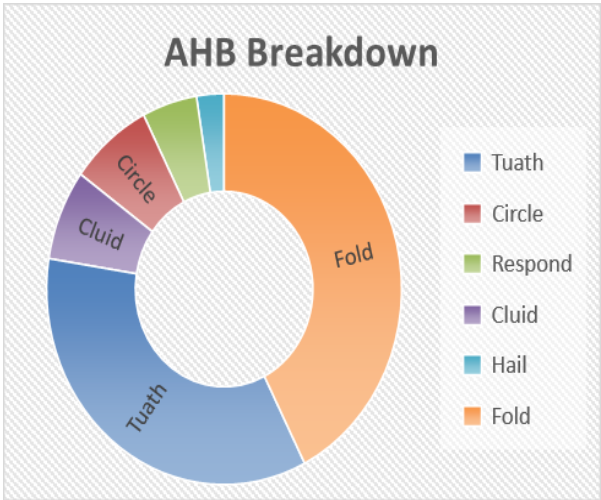
The chart below shows the breakdown of allocations per month.



157 of the **243** allocations have been in collaboration with several Approved Housing bodies. The other **86** properties were allocated using Fingal County Councils own stock.



There were an additional **40** nominations made in April on behalf of FCC applicants. Lettings are awaiting confirmation of their tenancies from the AHB's.



Fold have received the most nominations from Fingal County Council during the month of April.

The collaboration between Local Authorities and Approved Housing Bodies is continuing to have a positive impact on the delivery of social housing.

Choice Based Lettings Advertised Properties in April.

Of the **243** allocations made to date, **83** were made via Choice Based Lettings.



Advertisement Period	Property	Bed	Type	Number of Views	Expressions of interest
27 th March – 2 nd April	Golden Ridge Mews, Rush, Co Dublin	2	Apt	1026	147
3 rd – 9 th April	Dunsoghly Drive, Finglas, Dublin 11	2	House	1196	215
3 rd – 9 th April	Wellview Grove, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15	3	House	948	107
3 rd – 9 th April	Wellview Park, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15	2	House	1211	209
10 th – 16 th April	Sheepmoor Crescent, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15	3	House	1285	173
24 th – 30 th April	Pipers Court, Hansfield, Dublin 15	1	Apt	1404	229
24 th – 30 th April	Pipers Court, Hansfield, Dublin 15	3	Apt	1316	170
			Total	8386	1250

Applicants who do not have access to this portal should contact Choicebasedlettings@fingal.ie to request their unique username and password.

Homeless Services.

Homeless Exits 2024

During March 2024, 22 households exited homeless circumstances into various forms of social housing support - including privately rented tenancies under the Homeless HAP Scheme.

Please see the table below for a breakdown of the figures:

Type of Exit	HHAP Tenancy	Allocation of Tenancy	Total
EA	1	2	3
Homeless Prevention	15	4	19
Total	16	6	22

There was a total of 19 homeless prevention cases and 3 who exited emergency accommodation comprising:

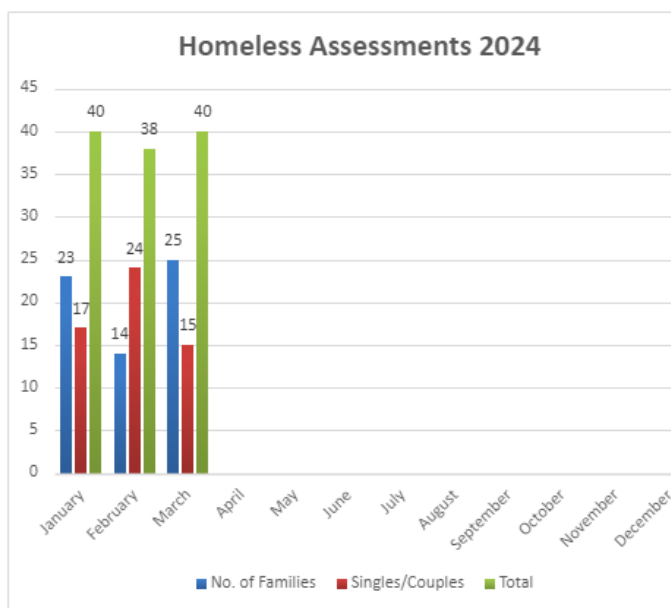
6 allocations of social housing support to homeless prevention cases and 2 who exited emergency accommodation.

16 Homeless HAP tenancies, comprising 15 homeless preventions and 1 who exited emergency accommodation.

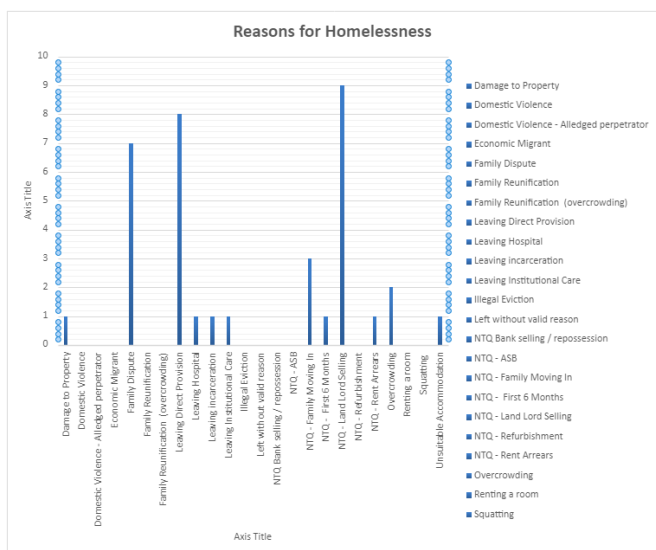
Homeless Assessments

Fingal's Homeless Team continues to engage with those experiencing homelessness to offer advice and support. Homeless Assessments continued to be carried out.

In March 2024, there were a total of 40 full homeless assessments completed – comprising 25 families and 15 singles/couples.



During March 2024, of the 40 Homeless Assessments carried out, 39% cases resulted from a Notice to Quit (NTQ) having been served. Most of the other presentations to the Homeless Section are from family/relationship breakdown (19%), living in overcrowded conditions (6%) and state that they cannot/will not return to the property. The remaining 36% comprise various reasons outlined in the chart below



Emergency Accommodation (including Fingal County Council Family Hubs)

There continues to be a high demand for Emergency Accommodation across the region for both families and individuals.

Rough Sleepers

The Homeless Services Team continues to liaise with the DRHE Outreach Team regarding any reports of rough sleeping, to establish their names and circumstances and to offer support. Regrettably, some rough sleepers are reluctant to engage with service providers and may refuse offers to access emergency accommodation. Any rough sleeper who is willing to engage with the Outreach Team and/ or the Council will be assisted.

The Council will carry out homeless assessments and every effort is made to encourage them to avail of homeless services.

A weekly Rough Sleepers Coordination Group monitors the reports of rough sleepers. The reports come from various outlets, including the DRHE Outreach Team, Elected Representatives, the FCC Operations Department, and the general public.

There have been 31 reported rough sleeping cases in 2024.

6 of the clients have taken up Emergency Accommodation and we continue to work with 2 others in an effort to provide a suitable solution.

There are currently 4 registered long term entrenched rough sleepers (1 couple and 2 males). The couple and 1 male have been nominated to Housing First tenancies in March 2024. We continue to work with the last client in an effort to secure him long term accommodation.

Dublin Street Outreach Service Tel: 01 872 0185 from 7 am to 1 am

The DRHE in partnership with Dublin Simon Outreach and the PMVT Intake team are assertively working on the streets offering accommodation to all rough sleepers. The teams are very familiar with the locations of people sleeping rough across the Dublin Region and persistently work with individuals to support them into emergency accommodation.

This process can take time and multiple contacts, as some people do not want to engage but the teams persevere with every person working to achieve a successful outcome.

The service operates 365 days a year, until 1 am. The Outreach Teams also ensure that people sleeping rough are linked with other appropriate health services such as addiction and mental health services to prevent further rough sleeping. PMVT's Housing First Intake team links rough sleepers to permanent accommodation with long-term support.

All emergency accommodation is now 24-hour, with food and shower facilities provided.

National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022-2027 Implementation Plan

Action 1.2.2 of the National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022-2027 Implementation Plan states that Local authorities and the HSE must work together to plan and deliver on housing targets for disabled people in the community (including de-congregation) in line with the forthcoming Disability Services Action Plan.

The HSE Mental Health Housing Coordinator from Parkgate Hall liaises with the Homeless Services Team on a monthly basis.

Currently 11 Fingal County Council clients have been identified, one was housed in January, a second is going through the nomination process after a property has been identified and the teams continue to liaise in relation to the other clients.

Homeless Action Plan 2022- 2024

The DRHE, with the approval of all 4 local authorities in the Dublin region, has finalised the Homeless Action Plan Framework for Dublin 2022-2024. This Plan is the first plan to be put into operation since Ireland signed the Lisbon Declaration on combatting homelessness in June 2021, which aims to end homelessness by 2030.

It will follow on from the previous Homeless Action Plan for 2019- 2021 and continues with the three key themes of **Prevention, Protection and Progression**.

The Plan was developed based on a detailed consultative process including submissions from various Stakeholders, interested organisations, Service Providers, Members of SPCs of the four Local Authorities, the Dublin Joint Homelessness Consultative Forum and the Statutory Management Group.

Preventing Homelessness, Notices to Quit and Tenant In-situ Acquisitions

Fingal County Council is aware that households in the Fingal area who may have received a notice to quit, which is also referred to as a notice of termination, from their landlord may be worried or unsure of what to do.

Fingal County Council and the Dublin Regional Homeless Executive (DRHE) would like to advise anyone affected of the services that are available to them in these circumstances.

We strongly encourage tenants residing in the Fingal area, who have been issued with a notice of termination, to contact Fingal County Council as soon as they receive a notice from their landlord. The contact details for Fingal County Council are provided at the bottom of this page.

When the tenants contact Fingal County Council, staff in the Housing Department will take note of the termination date.

The Council advises the tenant to refer the notice to Threshold, a service funded by the DRHE to provide a Tenancy Protection Service for private renters in the Dublin Region, including Fingal. Threshold can also be contacted directly on Freephone 1800 454 454 or via their website www.threshold.ie which contains more information and advice on the validity of your notice.

The Council's first response will be to try to prevent homelessness. This includes assessing the person's position on the social housing list, providing advice on applying for Choice Based Lettings, advising the person on the level of Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) they may be eligible to receive, and, in some cases, assessing if the Council can acquire the dwelling where the tenants reside if it is being offered for sale.

Placement in emergency accommodation will be a last resort if no other alternative can be identified.

The Council has been engaging with tenants who have been issued with a notice of termination, as well as their landlords, and following assessment, 259 tenant in-situ properties are at the sale closed stage. A total of 87 properties are at the sale agreed stage with a further 43 cases in the negotiation process. In addition, the Council is assessing a further 314 queries concerning notices of termination and tenant-in-situ acquisition.

The Council will continue to deal with notice of termination queries and cases as expeditiously as possible and progress tenant in-situ acquisitions while taking account of circulars and guidance issued by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Fingal County Council continues to liaise with other Dublin and neighboring local authorities to deal with tenancy issues that may require an inter-authority approach. In particular, we are working closely with our colleagues in the other Dublin Local Authorities on the implementation of the Government policy and guidance, with a focus on the needs of tenants.

Whilst the Council will, in the context of current circumstances, adopt flexibility in dealing with potential acquisitions of properties with tenants in situ, any acquisition is subject to appropriate due diligence and checks before any commitment is made to acquire, including, for example, determining that a valid notice of termination is in place, the tenant has a social housing need, and the condition and valuation of the property.

The Government has put forward options to allow tenants who are not eligible for social housing to remain in their homes, including schemes to support the purchase of homes and a Cost Rental in-situ Scheme. The Cost Rental Tenant-in-Situ Scheme is available for tenants who are not eligible for social housing and are at risk of homelessness. The DHLGH has advised that local authorities are to be the first point of contact for this scheme, but it is managed by the Housing Agency. Under the scheme, the Housing Agency can purchase a property and rent it to the tenant. Fingal County Council will undertake an initial assessment of the tenant's circumstances and refer details to the Housing Agency for consideration, where the tenant is at risk of homelessness and the Cost Rental Tenant-in-Situ scheme applies. The Housing Agency will then contact the landlord about the purchase of the property.

Where a tenant wishes to purchase their home from the landlord, local authorities can provide advice about the Local Authority Home Loan scheme. The Government is examining implementing a 'right of first refusal' for tenants to purchase their homes, as well as expanding the First Home shared equity scheme. The Council will be able to provide more information on these when available.

Works around preventing homelessness, assessing notices of termination, and responding to tenant and landlord in-situ queries are being led on by the Council's Homelessness section, taking a tenant-centred approach, supported by staff dedicated to dealing with tenant in-situ housing acquisitions.

The contact details below, including a dedicated email address NTQEnquiries@fingal.ie, should be used by tenants who may have received a notice of termination or a landlord who has issued a notice of termination to their tenants and who may wish to sell their property to the Council.

The key contact details are:

Fingal County Council Housing Department

Monday to Thursday, 9 am to 5.00 pm,

Friday 9 am to 4.30 pm:

Tel. **01 890 5000** or homeless@fingal.ie

Email: NTQEnquiries@fingal.ie

Dublin Region Homeless Executive, Central Placement Services:

Freephone : 1800 707 707

TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION PROGRAMME

Refurbishment works to the 5 Bay Halting Site at St Brigid's Lawns, Porterstown, Dublin 15 is ongoing. Works include replacing the existing welfare units with new modern units and upgrades to the on-site utilities.



Refurbishment work to 3 houses at St Philomena's Court are also near completion. Works include provision of new heating systems, kitchens and bathrooms.

Work has begun preparing the Draft Traveller Accommodation Programme 2025 – 2029. Letters of intent have been issued to relevant stakeholders with further engagement anticipated to take place over the coming weeks, with public consultation anticipated to take place regarding the Draft Plan during Summer 2024.

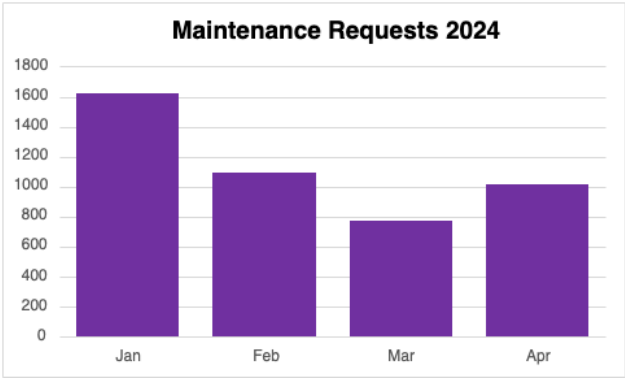
Regular site visits by Housing Inspectors continue all Fingal County Council Traveller specific sites while checking on vulnerable residents and advising on the continued support available.

Council officials continue to liaise and engage with the Traveller Community, Traveller Advocacy Groups, Welfare Services, Child Services, Mental Health Services and other services and agencies to resolve issues when and where possible.



Grass cutting at Lissenhall Green

Housing Maintenance



Boiler Servicing Programme

The 2024 Programme of work continues, with Contractors working across the County in areas such as Corduff, Dromheath, Whitestown, Wellview, Lusk, Garristown, Malahide and Donabate.

Anti-Social Behaviour/Inspectorate Unit

The Council is committed to investigating all reports of ASB and will take all preventative measures possible. All complaints are received in confidence by the ASB Unit.

Fingal County Council delivered 9 tenant Induction Courses throughout 2023. Further courses are expected during 2024 as new developments are completed and are ready for allocation.

ASB Caseload Management

Complaints April 2024	Total	Active	Monitoring	Closed
Balbriggan	24	20	3	1
Rush / Lusk	11	11	0	0
Swords	31	19	5	7
Howth / Malahide	19	13	4	2
Blanchardstown / Mulhuddart	45	28	9	8
Ongar	6	0	0	6
Castleknock	1	0	1	0
Total	137	91	22	24

Surrenders on Estate Management Grounds 2024

January (1), February (4), March (6), April (3)

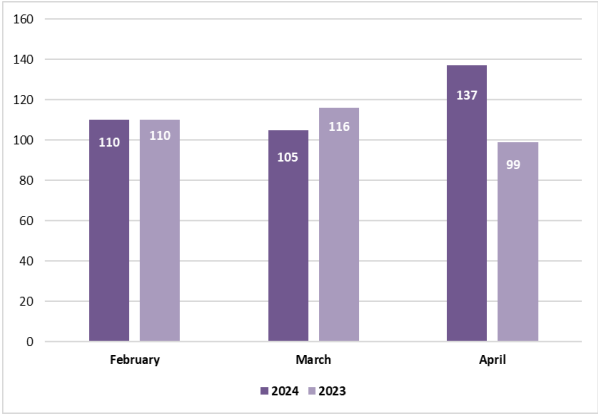
Monthly Breakdown of ASB Complaints Received 2023-24

Fire damage to dwellings following arson attacks March/April 2024

The Anti-Social Behaviour Unit has been dealing with a number of serious and violent attacks on property in the Dublin 15 area. These attacks included criminal damage to Fingal County Council-owned dwellings with some resulting in personal injury to occupants.

These attacks have caused extensive damage to FCC properties leaving a number of families unable to reside in their home. The Council have been liaising directly with An Garda Síochána and investigations are underway into all incidents.

The Council operates a zero tolerance to such brutal attacks and will continue to work with An Garda Síochána in this regard. The Council encourages and supports all citizens to report incidents of antisocial behaviour to both An Garda Síochána and Fingal County Council. A collaborative approach with all stakeholders is essential if we are to be successful in tackling all aspects of anti-social behaviour. The Council's dedicated Anti-Social Behaviour Unit can be contacted directly by email asb@fingal.ie. It is important to note all information received is in confidence.



Anti-Social Behaviour Interventions

Interviews Held 2024	51
Interviews Held 2023	95
Tenancy Alerts 2024	10
Tenancy Alerts 2023	23
Tenancy Warnings 2024	4
Tenancy Warnings 2023	6

Inspectorate

Traveller Specific Site Inspections 2024	552
Traveller Specific Site Inspections 2023	1665
Estate Inspections 2024	452
Estate Inspections 2023	1305
Estate Management Inspections 2024	736
Estate Management Inspections 2023	1666

Housing Ukraine Response

Those Fleeing the Conflict in Ukraine

The Government is committed to delivering a humanitarian response to welcome people fleeing the conflict in Ukraine and seeking protection in Ireland.

Web resources with useful information on support and accommodation for Ukrainian Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection and the wider Fingal community are shown below:

www.gov.ie/ukraine

[Ukraine українська Україна | Fingal County Council](#)

The Council's Fingal Ukraine Response Forum chaired by the Mayor continues to meet regularly to co-ordinate the response of the various statutory agencies and voluntary groups in the county to assist the Ukraine community with the most recent meeting held on the 30th April 2024.

The Forum will shortly be renamed the Community Integration Forum. This takes into account Departmental guidance in this regard, the work of the forum members and the Council's newly formed Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT) in assisting the target cohorts under the remit of the LAIT -

1. Applicants for International Protection (IP Applicants)
2. Those with Refugee, Subsidiary Protection, or Permission to Remain status
3. Programme Refugees
4. Beneficiaries of Temporary Accommodation (BOTPs).

Liam Rodgers Rest Centre

The centre has been stood down as a rest centre for Ukraine Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection since Mid-March 2024 and the building has recently returned to use for community activity. The centre provided shelter and support for circa 700 Ukrainians since the war began in the main new arrivals to the country.

OfferAhome\Pledge Accommodation

The monthly recognition payment is **€800** per month for vacant properties and **€800** to host a Ukraine person in your home. To pledge fully vacant accommodation, please visit the national portal at <https://offerahome.ie> or for enquiries, e-mail offerahome@fingal.ie.

To pledge a room in your home, this can be done through the Irish Red Cross via www.redcross.ie Note **Helping Irish Hosts** can offer support and advice to both hosts and guests in pledge accommodation.

See website <https://www.helpingirishhosts.com> for further information.

Vacant Homes

The Vacant Homes Team continues to engage with owners of vacant properties to encourage owners to bring them back into use and advise of schemes that are available to assist this with on-going follow up of properties reported as vacant to the Council and those identified by way of survey.

The Croí Cónaithe Refurbishment Grant Scheme is in utilisation to address vacancy and assist citizens in getting a home with increasing enquiries, applications, and grant approvals. The grant can also be used to bring a vacant property back into use for the private rented market.

Croí Cónaithe Vacant Homes Refurbishment Grant

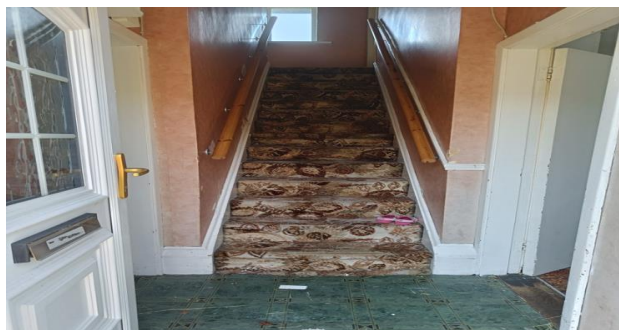
On the 1st May 2023, the scheme was further extended with the eligibility criteria now allowing for properties built pre-2008 to qualify and grants increasing to €50k (vacant) and €70k (vacant and derelict).

The scheme now also allows for a grant for approved properties to be rented on the private market when refurbishment is complete. Before this change, the grant-approved property had to be the principal private residence of the grant.

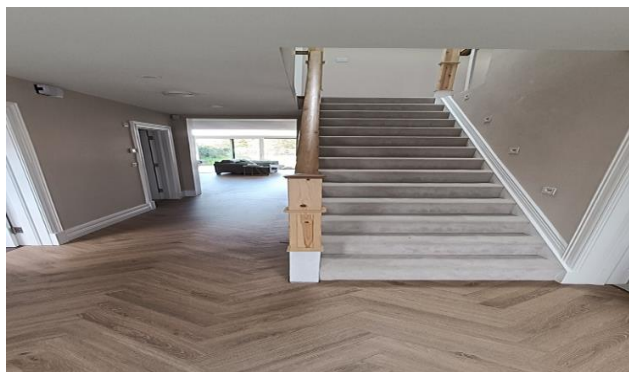
124 applications have been received under the scheme with a steady flow of new applications, 64 of which have been approved with further applications moving to the approval stage. In addition, staff are engaging with numerous other expressions of interest which have the potential to lead to further applications.

Promotion of the scheme is ongoing by the Vacant Homes Team who have been present at various Housing Information Events most recently the event held in the Crown Plaza, Hotel, Santry on the 1st December 2023 and at Donabate Golf Club on the 7th March 2024. For enquiries on the scheme and other schemes to bring properties back into use please contact the Council's Vacant Homes Office via e-mail at vacant.homes@fingal.ie . Vacant properties can also be reported to this address for investigation

Croi Connaithe Vacant Property Grant before and after Photos below:



Before



After



Before



After



Before



After

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Contents
Community Development
Facilities Management
Interagency
Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT)
Ukrainian Supports
Age Friendly Fingal
Funding

Community Development Office

Community development is a process where community members come together to take collective action and generate solutions to common problems. Community wellbeing, economic, social, environmental and cultural challenges are often solved through collective action being taken at a grassroots level. Community development ranges from small initiatives within a local group to large initiatives that involve the broader community. Building community capacity, strengthening community participation, and involving people in decisions that affect their lives is a complex process and can only be achieved by working with local communities and agencies who have responsibility to the people in those communities. In April/May the Community Development Office worked in partnership with a number of community groups and partners to support many projects/Initiatives including;

Fingal Mayors Awards 2024



The Community Development office with support from the Corporate Department and Comms team hosted the Fingal Mayors Awards 2024. This years theme was ‘Celebrating Tidy Towns’ and the event, which was held last Wednesday night in the Crowne Plaza hotel in Santry, was a great success.

The event allowed the Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Adrian Henchy, to acknowledge the outstanding contribution the different Tidy Town groups across the county make in promoting cleanliness, environmental projects and community pride through their various Tidy Towns initiatives.

There were over 200 guests in attendance on the night with a representative from each of the 21 Tidy Towns groups involve in the evening receiving a specially commissioned glass trophy from the Mayor. They were also interviewed on stage by Virgin Media’s Deric Hartigan who was the MC for the evening.

A promotional video for each Tidy Towns’ group was commissioned by the Council and launched to all on the evening. The groups can use the video as promotional collateral to support funding applications or for recruitment drives.



The Award winning St Brigid’s National School Choir, Castleknock opened the evening by performing a number of beautiful songs.

Fingal Rural Community Forum



The first meeting of the new Fingal Rural Community Forum took place on 11th April with attendance from all 8 member communities. The forum has been set up by the Community Development Office to provide a platform for rural communities in North Fingal for resource and knowledge sharing, support, upskilling and to address common community issues and goals. The members represent the communities of Ballyboughal, Balrothery, Balscadden, Man O'War, Naul, Oldtown, Rolestown and Garristown. The meetings will take place quarterly and in different member communities.

Fingal She Leads: Raising the Voice of Fingal Women Pioneers



On the 13th & 14th of April, Naomi Fein and Heather Mullin, supported by the Community Development Office, commenced a five-month training programme - *Raising The Voice of Fingal Women Pioneers* in Swords Castle. The programme was attended by 13 women from diverse backgrounds and nationalities.

The workshop aimed to enhance the participant's understanding of pioneering qualities and how they can use creative methodologies to bring positive changes to their communities.

The 13 women valued opportunity to come together and share their stories finding the workshop "engaging, thought-provoking, and empowering".

Moving forward, the women will each host three outreach events in their communities, gather stories, and use the art techniques shared during the workshop to create unique visual boards that will be displayed in the final exhibition on the 11th July 2024. This public event will showcase the journey undertaken by the women, the stories collected and will present a collective vision for change through an art Installation.

Fingal Climate Action Heroes Challenge



The Community Development Office are delighted to announce that 18 groups are taking part in the Fingal Climate Heroes challenge. This is an initiative of Global Action Plan.

The competition commenced on the 15th April and will run for two weeks. Over 96 people from across Fingal are participating and have saved a total of 7,899KG CO₂ to date. A big thank you to those groups taking on those daily climate-friendly activities such as using a keep cup, taking public transport, airdrying clothes, buying second hand, taking shorter showers, eating locally produced food etc.

Launch of Thrive Swords



Thrive Swords, a community-led mental health project, supported by the Community Development office and Mental health Ireland was officially launched by Fingal Mayor, Cllr Adrian Henchy at the Carnegie Hotel on 22nd April.

Following on from the success of Thrive Balbriggan, this community-led project aims to create a happy and healthy community in Swords by conducting projects and events aimed at improving mental health and wellbeing. Thrive in Conversations was the first in a series of events, in person and online which will see participants from local groups, organizations, Fingal County Council and public representatives coming together to identify and discuss mental health and wellbeing opportunities and expectations in Swords. Thrive Swords will take part in the national Hello How Are You Day later this month.

GLAS @ TU Dublin Volunteer Celebration



A volunteer celebration event took place on 26th April at the GLAS @ TU Dublin Community Garden in Corduff. This event was attended by Mayor of Fingal Cllr. Adrian Henchy and Minister O'Gorman as well as many Elected Members from the Dublin 15 area.

This community garden is a partnership between Global Action Plan, TU Dublin and Fingal County Council Community Development Department. The event recognised volunteers for their efforts in helping to establish this hub of activity over the last 12 months.

Workshops continue in this space and support for community and voluntary groups in Dublin 15 is being further developed onsite and in other community spaces throughout the area.

Meakstown Community Centre Update

Great strides are being made onsite in Meakstown with works progressing well on the building of the new Meakstown Community Centre. Elected members from the area and some staff got their first glimpse of the new centre recently during a site visit. The local community volunteers are working hard along with Community Development staff to ensure the centre is well managed and the community are supported and involved in the day to day running of the centre when it opens later in the year.

Following the recent open call for volunteers to become involved in the management of the centre the selection process for the Board of Management is well underway and it is anticipated that this Board will be in place shortly and will be supported with appropriate training and advice from the Community Development Staff which will provide a solid foundation for the Centre going forward.

The Community Development Office will support the formation of this BOM and support a subgroup with a project to conduct a needs analysis of the local area over the coming months.



Mourne 50



The Mourne Estate Development Working Group are busy progressing plans to celebrate 50 years of Mourne Estate, or "Mourne 50", with the Mourne Estate residents and Skerries Community. Group members Martin Russell from Mourne Estate Residents Association and Mourne Celtic FC, Cllr. Brendan Ryan and Cllr. Tom O'Leary presented 6th class Student Faye Corr with a €50 voucher in her school Realt Na Mara for designing and drawing the winning logo to be used in the "Mourne 50" project.

The voucher was sponsored by local pub The Gladstone Inn and logo will be used in all promotions of the upcoming events. The first Mourne 50 event upcoming is a Street Feast on Saturday May 25 at Mourne Grove.

Facilities Management



Fingal Liam Rodgers

Fingal Liam Rodgers re-opened its doors to the local community on the 1st of May 2024. The reopening of the doors to local groups was warmly welcomed by local groups and citizens alike. The centre is taking bookings for current and future use with bookings already being made well into the summer months.

The centre was used as a temporary Ukrainian accommodation centre over the past two years. During this time the centre provided a valuable resource to the Ukrainian community by providing them basic accommodation and support in a safe location.

We wish to thank the local community, staff of the centre and those local groups displaced by the repurposing of the centre during this period. Your support, assistance and understanding are greatly appreciated.

The community are looking forward to reconvening their activities and seeing more new activities and services grow and develop in the local community.

Fingal Community Facilities Network



On Tuesday 26th March, the Fingal Community Facilities Network hosted its quarterly networking event in The Carlton Hotel Tyrrelstown. The keynote speaker on the day was the former Governor of Mountjoy Prison, John Lonergan. John delivered an inspirational talk to the members of the network on the values of community work, and the positive effects of community intervention. He brought his own unique style of delivery to the meeting, with relevant anecdotes and examples of some of the cases he has worked through over the course of his career. His advice and guidance were incredibly well received by all the members, and everyone left with a renewed appreciation for the community work they engage in every day across the county.

Interagency

The Community Development office actively seek to work in collaboration with agencies to maximise service delivery and resources to communities In April/May the CDO supported the delivery of the following:

Fingal Comhairle Na nÓg



Fingal Comhairle Na nÓg hosted a delegation of adults and young people from Tokyo, Japan in Blanchardstown Youth Service in April.

They presented to the visitors on Youth Participation, prompting plenty of discussion on youth participation and youth work in Ireland. The group are also busy working on their project about Youth Spaces in Fingal and sent out survey to young people in Fingal which was completed by over 200 young people.

The young people attended Dail na nÓg, the topic chosen was 'school stress'.

Two members attended the National Assembly on Climate.

One young person served on an interview panel for Hub na nÓg.

Fingal PPN



Fingal PPN welcomes the appointment of the new Resource Officer Samantha Byrne. Following on from a very well-attended linkage group meeting on 6th March, the Secretariat recognise the need for training for member groups and representatives. We have collaborated closely with DCU to design the upcoming PPN Summer School programme, which takes place from 27th-30th May. It covers media training, introduction to the PPN, grant writing and how to engage effectively with the Council. Sessions are a blend of in-person and online. The initiative is a collaboration between the four Dublin PPNs and helps provide essential training on participating in deliberative democracy in your local county, as well as a wonderful opportunity to network with other organisations.

Fingal PPN looks forward to celebrating the 10-year anniversary of the establishment of the PPN network which now represents 19,950 groups nationwide. The official anniversary will be announced later this year in Limerick at the annual conference. The PPN Workers' retreat took place in Meath on 25th & 26th April and was attended by workers from all over country. It was an excellent opportunity to share ideas and find common ground.

Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT)

The role of the Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT) is to provide ongoing integration supports to International Protection (IP) applicants, Programme Refugees and Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection (BOTP) to enable them to live independently in the community.

The full LAIT are now in place within the Community Development Department and the team are currently visiting all IP/BOTP centres in Fingal and meeting with stakeholders. The information gathered from these visits/meetings will enable the team to signpost clients to the appropriate services and ensure clinics are meeting the needs of the client.

The team have completed a series of information sessions and service informed training sessions such as Trauma Informed Practice, GDPR and Domestic, Sexual and Gender based violence.

The team attended the first National Network Meeting hosted by the LGMA / DCEDIY and where the 31 LAIT's met to share case studies and showcase the work of agencies / NGO's across Ireland.



Ukrainian Supports:

Work to support Ukrainians across Fingal continues with staff from the Community Development Office providing support and information to support groups on available funding and service access.

The Local Authority Integration Team looks forward to playing a key role in the newly reconstituted Fingal Community Integration Forum this year. Working alongside their statutory and voluntary forum partners, the LAIT will be focusing on identifying and addressing any gaps in service provision and supports to international protection applicants, programme refugees and beneficiaries of temporary protection (eg Ukrainians) across the county going forward.

Age Friendly Fingal

Age Friendly Fingal is committed, through this strategy, to driving a collaborative, multi-sectoral approach which supports interventions that will significantly help to improve the quality of life of the current population of older people in Fingal and future generations.

Fingal OPC Annual Conference 2024: Ageing Well in Fingal



Fingal OPC's Annual Conference 2024 will take place on Tuesday 21st May 2024 in Kettles Hotel, Swords. The theme of the Conference is "Ageing Well in Fingal".

The morning session will consist of presentations by experts from the HSE (Decision Supports) and Fingal County Council (Housing for Older People), followed by Q&A sessions, with entertainment in the afternoon.

A number of service providers such as Citizens Information, Fingal Age Friendly Healthy Homes, An Garda Síochána, FCC Housing, HSE and MABS will be present during the day to provide information and advice to delegates.

Cross Border Intergenerational Project



The final meeting of the intergenerational groups on the Cross-Border project took place on Saturday 23rd March in Carlingford with a visit of the last Leprechauns of Ireland, followed by lunch and a discussion in Bagnel's Castle, Newry.

Each participant gave feedback on the project, the positive impact it has had on them and their view of the opposite age group, as well as their community.

While the project as outlined for the Shared Island Fund is now complete, both groups agreed to continue to meet and work on joint initiatives and hope to meet up in Balbriggan later in the year.

The Balbriggan Intergenerational Project (BIPs) are focusing on the lack of shared spaces in Balbriggan for all ages and abilities, both indoors and outdoors. They have developed a questionnaire for completion by their peers. The results will be provided to Our Balbriggan and Fingal Operations Department for consideration within their workplans.

There is interest going forward on how Intergenerational Practice can be used within communities when exploring new projects, works, and regeneration. This project will be presented at an upcoming Age Friendly Seminar on Intergenerational Practice.

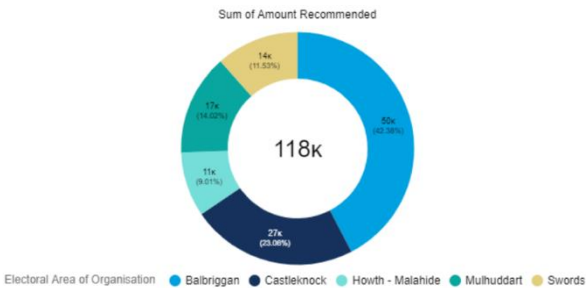
Launch of Donabate Memory Cafe



Donabate Memory Café offers a safe place for those with Dementia or Alzheimer's and their families and carers, to learn about dementia with sessions hosted by specialists in areas such as nutrition and finance most importantly it's a place to have fun and socialise, share stories over a cup of tea and cake.

Activities include chair yoga, singalongs with local singers and musicians and brain activities. The café is supported by the FCC Community Development Office., HSE, Alzheimer's Society, Donabate Library and local businesses. Over 60 people attended the launch by Mayor of Fingal Cllr. Adrian Henchy. The café opens the last Wednesday of each month, 11am to 1pm.

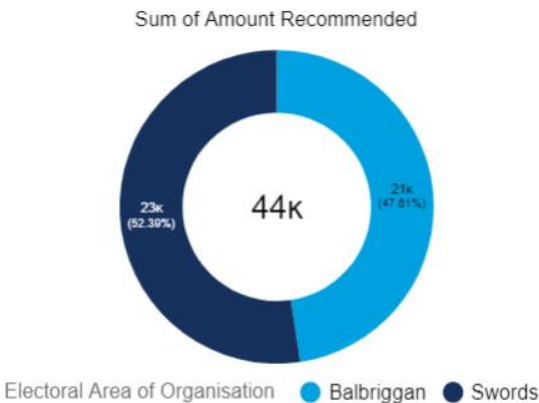
Funding
Community Activities Funding (up to 25th April 2024)



Communities Activities Funding has been awarded to a total of **54** projects to the amount of **€118,481** so far in 2024.

- **Howth Malahide** - €10, 675 - across 8 projects
- **Swords** - €13,662 - across 8 projects
- **Castleknock/ Mulhuddart**- €43,938 - across 16 projects
- **North County Balbriggan** - €50,206 - across 22 projects

Community Facilities (Non FCC Owned) Remedial Works Funding



Community Facilities (non FCC Owned) Remedial Works funding has been awarded to a total of **3** projects to the amount of **€44,386** so far in 2024.

- **Swords** - €23,254.00 - across 1 project

Castleknock/ Mulhuddart- €21,132.00 – across 2 projects

ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE ACTION, ACTIVE TRAVEL AND SPORTS DEPARTMENT

Contents
Active Travel
Climate Action
Environmental Awareness
Bring Centres
Litter Management
Landfill Aftercare
Water Quality Protection
Sports Office

Active Travel

Protected Cycle Lanes:

BLRS Area:

R132 Blakes Cross to Quickpenny Lane

During April and over the Easter period the contractor was busy carrying out work in front of Corduff National School when the school was on mid-term. A new gold (buff) coloured anti-skid surface was applied to the road in front of the school to highlight the school zone and increase awareness to motorists that they are entering into a reduced speed school zone. Kilhedge Lane that links back into Lusk Village had extensive drainage improvements completed in April to help alleviate some of the flooding issues along sections of the road. The road was resurfaced throughout to provide a high-quality new surface that will provide a smooth surface for all walkers and cyclists.



Seatown Road Swords:

The Engineering Consultant and Project Team are currently working to finalise the Non-Statutory Public Consultation Report, Options Report, Detailed Drawings and Screenings on the final option. Once the documents have been finalised, it will be published on the Consultation Portal in the coming weeks. The project team are working towards going to the market in the coming months for a Contractor to progress to the Construction stage in 2024, subject to NTA approvals.

Donabate Portrane R126 cycle paths:

The Project Team is currently working with our property section to progress the potential acquisition of lands along a section of the route to facilitate the progression of the proposed walking and cycling infrastructure from the end of the distributor road in Donabate along the R126 through to the coast at Portrane.

A further topographical survey has been completed to assist with the development of a preferred option. Once details of the preferred option have been finalised, it will be presented to the members at local ACM later this year.

Coney Hill Balbriggan R132 cycle paths:

The Engineering Consultant is currently working with the Project Team to finalise concept designs and options report to assist with stakeholder engagement. Further Topographical Surveys are underway to assist with the decision-making process on the preferred option.

This is a complex section of road as the road widths are narrow and confined. All options are being considered at present so that the preferred option can be established. Further details will be presented to Cllr's later in the year.

St Cronan's Brackenstown Road Cycle lanes:

The contractor is back on site to complete the outstanding works at the Murrough Road Rathbeale Road Junction. These works include tie in of the cycle lanes from the Murrough Road into the Rathbeale Road. New drop kerbs and road markings to provide safe transition for cyclists and vulnerable road users from the on-road cycle facilities onto the off-road cycle facilities on the Rathbeale Road. These works will be ongoing over the coming weeks together with other snag items on this project. Traffic management will be deployed where necessary and minimal disruption is expected in the area.

Pathfinder Pinnock Hill to Airport cycle paths:

An updated options report has been provided by the Engineering Consultant following an initial review from the Project Team. The updated Options Report will be reviewed and agreed with relevant stakeholders before moving to the next steps. Consultation is ongoing with the relevant stakeholders including the DAA, NTA and Bus Connects project team. Further updates will be provided over the coming months, through this report and at ACM level.

Howth-Malahide Area:

Baldoyle-Howth Protected Cycle Lane Scheme Phase 2

A review of the existing road network in Baldoyle is on the Active Travel Unit's programme for 2024-2025. This will include Willie Nolan Road, Brookstone Road and Main Street. It will comprise an advancement of a previous study for the improvement of pedestrian and cycle facilities on the existing road network.

Preparation of the brief for consultants will begin in Q2, 2024, in line with the Fingal County Development Plan, the Climate Action Plan and an Active Travel Strategy for Fingal.

Once a further study and preferred option has emerged from the process, it is envisaged that the scheme will progress, subject to funding from the National Transport Authority (NTA).

Paddy's Hill to Broomfield via Naomh Mearnóg GAA

It is intended to run a tender competition in Q2, 2024 for 'Concept Development and Options Selection'. Preparation of the brief and tender documents have begun.

Enabling works have been completed to provide connectivity from Paddy's Hill Car Park to St. Helen's Junior School and Limetree Avenue. This included tree surgeon works, footpath works, new access points to the school, ramps, table-top crossings, dropped kerbs and ramps on the carriageway on Paddy's Hill.



The design brief and tender documents have been prepared. It is intended to publish this tender as soon as possible to progress this project from the design phases through to completion as soon as possible. The design will incorporate feedback from internal FCC stakeholders and the local Resident's Association. A temporary footpath was constructed in December 2023, to provide safe access to the Old Golf Links site and paths through the park, providing safe connectivity to Seamount Heights.




Feltrim Road Cycle Infrastructure

The Active Travel Unit of Fingal County Council proposes to engage a consultant to provide multi-disciplinary consultancy services for the provision and improvement of infrastructure for pedestrians, people on cycles and other vulnerable road users.

Page 84

National Cycling Programme Proposals

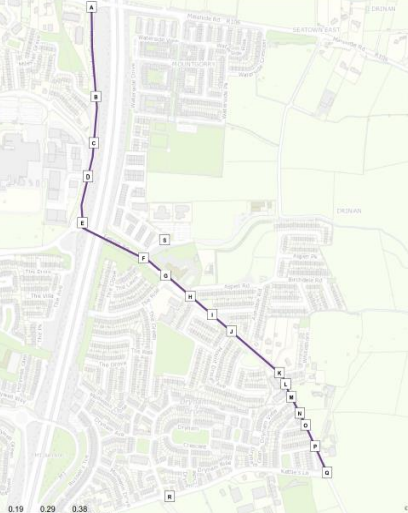
Comhairle Contae Fhine Gail
Fingal County Council

Legend

FELTRIM_ROUTE_MAP

Location Key



Proposed Feltrim Route

STATION LABEL	DESCRIPTION	STATION LABEL	DESCRIPTION
A	F100 Mainline Roundabout Junction	K	Feltrim Road/Whitburn Junction
B	Whangang Way/Western Avenue Junction	L	Feltrim Road/Leinster/Smiths Road Junction
C	Whangang Way/Donohoe Road	M	Feltrim Road/Donohoe Way/Donohoe Avenue/WHG
D	Whangang Way/Feltrim Business Park Junction	N	Feltrim Road/Donohoe Way/Donohoe Avenue/WHG
E	Whangang Way/Feltrim Road Roundabout Junction	O	Feltrim Road/Cullins Lane Junction
F	Feltrim Road/Whangang Way/Donohoe Way/Donohoe Avenue/WHG	P	Feltrim Road/Donohoe Way/Donohoe Avenue/WHG
G	Feltrim Road/The Box Junction	Q	Feltrim Road/Cullins Lane
H	Feltrim Road/Donohoe Way	R	Feltrim Road/Donohoe Way/Donohoe Avenue/WHG
I	Feltrim Road/Donohoe Way/Donohoe Avenue/WHG		

© Ordnance Survey Ireland

Planning permission has been granted for the school and the Department of Education is to engage with Fingal County Council in relation to pedestrian access as a condition of the granted Planning Permission. In the interim, a footpath, dropped kerbs with tactile paving have been provided on the route to/from the school and the Feltrim Road.

The options report for the project has been completed after internal reviews by the Project Team and a workshop with the NTA. A Gateway 2 Report has been issued to the NTA and approval to proceed to the preliminary design phase of the project has been received.

The consultant has received the stage 1 road safety audit on the emerging preferred option. The drawings are now being updated taking this audit into account. Stakeholder engagement continues with the Bus Connects project team for a proposed new signalised junction at Waterville. A draft preliminary design report has been issued to the Active Travel Unit with comments sent back. Further updates will be provided over the coming months, through this report and at ACM level.

Clonee to Blanchardstown Shopping Centre

All data collection has been collated and has informed the initial development of the options report. Initial discussions have taken place with local landowners. The design consultant has been issued with an updated review of the draft Options report and drawings following input from the Active Travel team. Once reviewed a workshop will be held with the NTA.

Castleknock to Dunsink Lane

This project is now focusing on Auburn Avenue linking into the Royal Canal at the 12th Lock along the Old Navan Road. The Options Report and relevant drawings for Auburn Avenue have been reviewed and approved by the NTA in compliance with the Gateway 2 Hold Point requirements.

A stage 1 road safety audit has been carried out and comments taken into consideration with drawings updated accordingly. Photomontages of the emerging preferred option have been prepared in advance of a public consultation with information leaflets being drafted for a letter drop to the wider area. Draft EIA and AA screening reports have also been submitted for review.

Hartstown/Huntstown/Mountview Road

It is proposed to use a newly formed Single Party Framework to progress design from earlier work carried out by the Cycle Design Office. A tender competition has been published to engage the design consultant for phase 2b in this regard. The tender competition is now closed and is under assessment.

Fingal County Council will progress on finalising the detailed design for roundabout and junction upgrades. This is subject to revision of design standards to ensure compliance with the new National Cycle Manual.

Castleknock to Blanchardstown via Farmleigh

Stage 2 of the tender competition for a design consultant and assessment has been completed. Contract documents have been signed and sealed and a commencement meeting has taken place. The feasibility study has started, and traffic and drone surveys have taken place which will help inform the study. A tender competition to carry out a topographical survey has been completed with survey works starting May 2024.

Towns & Villages

Works are continuing in the development of an Active Travel Plan for several of our Towns & Villages. Details are outlined below.

New Street

Fingal County Council has received notification of a Judicial Review proceedings challenging the Part 8 approval for the Public Realm Improvements. Fingal County Council's legal team is currently taking instructions in relation to this.

The Active Travel Unit intends to tender the detailed design phase of this project in Q2, 2024.

Balrothery Active Travel Plan

The Consultant is in the process of incorporating Fingal County Council's comments on the draft report they produced following a well-attended non-statutory consultation event on 20th February 2024.

The Consultant is also in the process of identifying Key Performance Indicators for Active Travel in Balrothery, for agreement with the Active Travel Unit. Different approaches to a solution are being developed to deliver Active Travel in Balrothery. Each of these approaches will be examined against the Key Performance Indicators for various locations across Balrothery to determine a best-fit approach.

The Consultant is in the process of identifying and refining a list of interventions under these different approaches to address the issues raised during the consultation. This list will comprise both smaller interventions, as well as bigger moves. The next steps are to obtain baseline survey information in Q2, 2024.

Skerries Active Travel Plan

A set of draft Stage 2 Tender documents for the appointment of an Integrated Design Team are now under review by the Project Team and Procurement Section. Once these tender documents are reviewed and approved by senior management, they will be published on Etenders in May for the appointment of a contractor in June.

Skerries Harbour Road:

The project team and consultants are reviewing the Pre-Planning Report received in April from the Planning Department with the aim of addressing feedback during May. Once documents and drawings are revised by the consultants a decision will be made when to bring this project forward to planning and for further engagement with stakeholders. Further meetings will be arranged to update the elected members on the next steps and timelines involved.

Connectivity/Permeability

We are continuing to receive various requests for Permeability and Connectivity improvements from various stakeholders across the county. These requests are being recorded in detail for evaluation through a multi criteria analysis.

The projects are then reviewed across the departments to identify if an appropriate means of delivery can be established on the ground.

Several projects identified through this process are being developed through the design phases for execution on the ground. Other projects are being progressed in the areas at either design or construction stage. These Connectivity and Permeability improvements are being delivered in cooperation with our Operations Department.

These projects will enhance local communities and provide improved walking and cycling infrastructure within the county.

Greenway connectivity support teams have been convened to review, design, and deliver active travel infrastructure that will enhance accessibility between the proposed strategic greenways and residential, educational, amenity and commercial zones. These support projects have been set up for Fingal Coastal Way, Broadmeadow Way/Sutton to Malahide Greenway and Royal Canal Greenway. This will help to optimise the use of the proposed greenway by both leisure and commuter users.

Newtown Bridge, Balheary Road:

The Engineering Consultant and Project Team are currently working to finalise the Non-Statutory Public Consultation Report, Options Report, Detailed Drawings and Screenings on the final option. Once the documents have been finalised, it will be published on the Consultation Portal in the coming weeks. The project team are working towards going to the market in the coming months for a Contractor to progress to the Construction stage in 2024, subject to NTA approvals.

Rush South Beach:

The project team and the Engineering consultant have prepared concept design and options report for new universal access path. Discussions with landowners are ongoing, with meetings held recently and further meetings with the landowners in the coming weeks.

We are working collaboratively with the property owners to find an optimal solution that caters for everyone's needs.

Beaverstown Road, Donabate:

Active Travel has completed the Construction stage for the provision of footpath to link up to existing footpath along Beaverstown Road in Donabate.

Landscaping and planting have been completed and the new fence has been erected.



Balgriffin Park Shared Pedestrian and Cycle Path:

This connectivity piece provides a shared pedestrian and cycle path from the county boundary with Dublin City on Balgriffin Park, to the junction with the R123. This provides a pedestrian and cycling connection for many dwellings on/near Balgriffin Park to the newly constructed pedestrian and cycling facilities on the R123. Works are complete.

Howth Summit Inn to Bus Stop 567:

Dropped kerbs with tactile paving have been provided on the route between the Summit Inn and Bus Stop 567. This work has been completed.

Offington, Howth:

Junction tightening and provision of tactile paving is complete at three junctions in Offington, Howth:

The two junctions of Offington Drive with Offington Avenue and the junction of Offington Lawn with Offington Avenue are complete. This will slow turning movements by motorised vehicles while providing a shorter crossing distance for pedestrians and other vulnerable road users. Grassed areas have also been seeded in the new pavement, which will provide additional greening and drainage.



Secure Bicycle Parking Infrastructure

The contractor is progressing works associated with the provision of Secure Bicycle Parking Infrastructure on Rathingle Road, Swords, Co. Dublin.

The Contractor is also currently progressing works to install a number of bicycle parking facilities across the Dublin 15 and Swords Areas. Further works are planned in Skerries, Rush and Balbriggan in the coming weeks.

Expressions of interest has been sent to schools, sports club and community centres in relation to the supply of bike parking facilities. These expressions of interest will be assessed over the coming weeks so that orders can be placed for delivery to these facilities in the coming months.

Safe Routes to School

Round 1 – Tranche 1

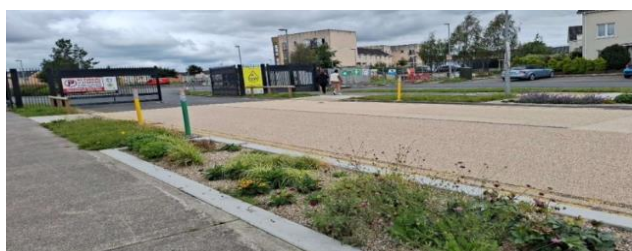
The works contractor for the Safe Routes to School Tranche 1 contract is finalising snags at each of the 5 schools. A brief update is provided below for each school site and associated construction works completed to date since the appointment of the works contractor.

Rush and Lusk Educate Together

Works are now completed on this SRTS Project. The contractor has recently carried out some snagging and maintenance work to the rain gardens and addressed issues that were identified through the independent Road Safety Audit.

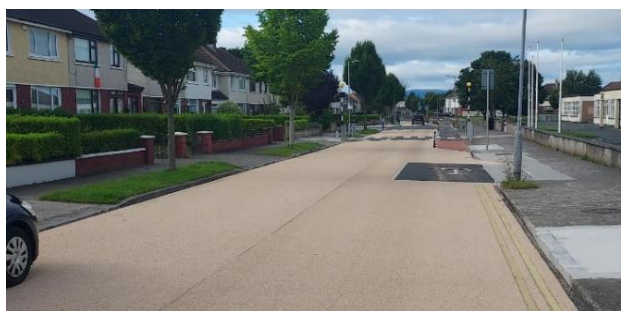
Castaheany ETNS / St.Benedict's NS

Works are now completed at the school site. The contractor has carried out minor snagging and maintenance on rain gardens. The Stage 3 Road Safety Audit has been completed by an independent auditor.



Bayside Junior & Senior School

Works are now completed at the school site. The contractor has carried out minor snagging and maintenance on rain gardens. The Stage 3 Road Safety Audit has been completed by an independent auditor.



Scoil Choilm CNS

Installation of flexible bollards on Porterstown Rd outside the school entrance is complete. These initial works took place before the new school year starts to alleviate poor parking near the school gates. The main works are due to start at the end of Q2/start of Q3 2024.



Round 1 - Tranche 2

Detailed Design is complete for the Tranche 2 schools and a tender competition for the construction works has closed. The winning contractor is due to start on site at the end of April at the following school:

Ladyswell National School, Mulhuddart

Works will start on site at the end of Q2/start of Q3 2024 at the following schools:

Scoil Choilm Community NS, Porterstown
Scoil Ghráinne Community NS, Hansfield

Round 2

In mid-December, An Taisce announced Round 2 of the Safer Routes to School programme, with the following Fingal schools selected:

- Holy Family Junior National School, Forest Fields, Swords
- Scoil Bhríde Buachaillí, Church Avenue, Blanchardstown
- Scoil Bhríde Cailíní, Church Avenue, Blanchardstown
- St Helen's SNS, Limetree Avenue, Portmarnock
- St. Colmcille's Girls' National School, Chapel Lane, Swords

The Active Travel team are working closely with An Taisce in relation to data collection and engagement with the schools to develop delivery plans to enable the designers and contractors to carry out the works.

An Taisce are due to provide the delivery plans for each of the schools in the new year that will inform the design process. Fingal County Council has procured the services of a consultants' team that will be working on the designs for these schools.

Rush National School:

Active Travel together with Operations have recently launched two public consultations connected to road safety measures in Rush. A School Street initiative for Rush National School and a junction upgrade adjacent to the school are now open for public feedback.

The public has been invited to review plans for changes at Rush National School on the Fingal consultation portal. A proposal has been brought forward by the council's Active Travel unit to provide a School Street in the area. This initiative is being paired with a proposal from the council's Operations unit who have proposed junction upgrade measures at the nearby 5-arm junction at Millbank Road, Chapel Road and Whitestown Road which forms part of the 2024 Programme of Works. Together these upgrades will reduce traffic speeds in the area and provide children walking or wheeling to school with a much safer environment, at and on the approach to the school gate.

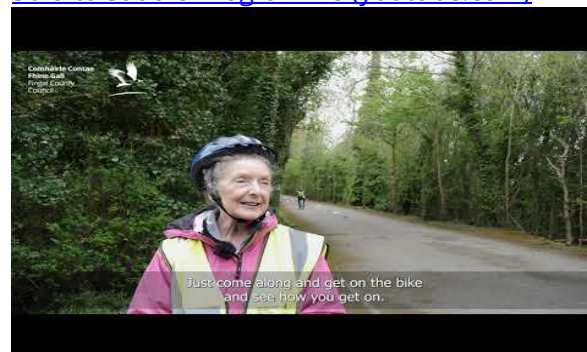
The consultation process is now complete, and the consultation report is being prepared. It is intended to update the local representatives at the next ACM meeting.

Mobility & Behaviour Change

Sofa to Saddle Course

Our Sofa to Saddle Course concludes this coming Wednesday 1st May. The Group have made massive strides over the duration of the course. As part of the promotion of future courses we filmed a short piece on the programme which is available on our YouTube channel

[Sofa to Saddle Programme \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)



Learn 2 Cycle with a Disability

Our Learn 2 Cycle with a Disability lessons continue to be extremely popular. We are continuing to roll these lessons out across County Fingal. We have just completed courses in Dublin 15 and Balbriggan, and our continuing with new courses over the summer. We have courses running on Saturdays from 27 April in Flemington Community Centre, Balbriggan, in Tyrrelstown Community Centre, Dublin 15 from Monday 13 May and Applewood Community Centre, Swords from Friday 10 May. Later in the summer, we will be holding lessons in Donabate and Portmarnock. We recently shot a promotional video for this course. This is available to view on our YouTube channel [Learn 2 Cycle with a Disability](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)



Adult Cycling Lessons Castleknock April – May

The Active Travel Unit are assisting Castleknock Tidy Towns in running cycling lessons for adults who want to get back in the saddle after taking a break, or for people who want to feel more confident on their bikes. The course will run over 6 weeks on Tuesday nights at 6.30pm, starting from Tues 09 April. The booking link can be found here <https://forms.office.com/e/RYKENYYKTS>



Lease Bike Trials for Staff

As part of our staff behavioural change programme, 10 staff from County Hall have signed up and received an eBike from Bleeper Bike for the next month.



Gearing Up for Training

Our Gearing Up for Training Course with Kinsealy Utd Football Club began on April 20th in Holywell Community Centre. This 6-hour course runs over a 3-week period and looks at a mix of theory and practical bike handling skills to improve road safety knowledge and bike handling skills.



Tandem Cycling Course

On Saturday 27th April, Fingal Active Travel & Sports Unit held our first Tandem Bike Pilots Course. The Course runs over two sessions, the first an online theory session, followed by an in person on bike session. The Course was well attended and very successful, we hope to run more of these around the County over the Summer Months.



Baldoyle Biosphere Festival

The Walking & Cycling Officers were delighted to attend the Baldoyle Biosphere Festival. It was a wonderful opportunity to discuss ongoing projects in the area and speak with so many locals. We also supported Baldoyle Wildtowns who were hosting a Biodiversity Cycle around the area.



Bike Week 2024

This year Bike Week takes place between the 11th – 19th May and we have full schedule of events and programmes taking place throughout the week.

The full list of events are available on www.fingal.ie/bikeweek

Some of the main events are listed below:

Saturday 11th May – 11am – 4pm

Millennium Park Family Fun Day

Sunday 12th May – 1pm – 3pm

Phoenix Park Inclusive Cycling Come & Try Day

Sunday 12th May – 1:30pm – 2:30pm

Phoenix Park Sofa to Saddle 5km Cycle

Wednesday 15th May – 7pm – 9pm

Phoenix Park Sunset Cycle

Saturday 18th May 1pm – 2pm

Castlelands Community Centre - Balbriggan Community Cycle

Saturday 18th May 4pm – 6pm

Station Road – Portmarnock to Howth Cycle

Sunday 19th May – 11am – 11:30am

New Street – Malahide Pedal Parade

Sunday 19th May – 11am – 5pm

Malahide Castle Family Day

Bike Racks for Schools/Clubs

We had a fantastic response to our call out to schools and clubs to apply for free Bike and Scooter Parking. We had over 45 responses with requests for almost 100 bike racks and 60 scooter racks. We will be assessing the responses and informing all applicants of their status in the next two weeks.

Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall Fingal County Council

ACTIVE TRAVEL AND SPORT

Bike & Scooter Parking Scheme

Free Bike & Scooter Parking for Sports Clubs and Schools

Help promote sustainable transport to your school or sports club by applying for free bike or scooter parking

APPLICATIONS CLOSE

Friday 19th April 2024 5pm

For more information, please contact active.travel@fingal.ie

T&Cs Apply

APPLY ONLINE

Scan QR code

Cycling Without Age

We have seen a good uptake on the Trishaws over the last month, there have been 12 trips across the County in the last two weeks of April. We would anticipate this growing further as the weather improves.

Trishaws are available in Skerries, Santry, Baldoyle and St Catherine's Park and can be booked by emailing cyclingwithoutage@fingal.ie



eCargo for Business/Community Group Trials

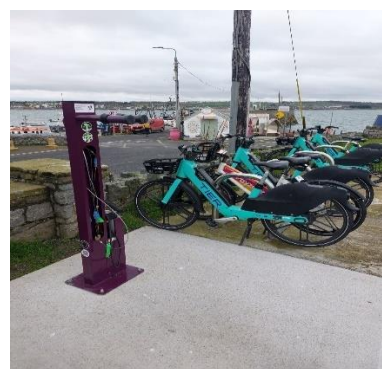
Throughout May we should see Castleknock Tidy Towns, Clonsilla Tidy Towns and Malahide Meals on Wheels receive their Community eCargo Bike. We are still accepting expressions of interest from Community Groups. If you would like more information, please email active.travel@fingal.ie. The Scheme was launched in December with Baldoyle Wildtown. The cargo bike has been given to the group for a 12-month period to help them with their activities around Baldoyle.

The eCargo has already been put to good use by the group to transport shovels, compost and trees during their orchard planting event in Seagrang Park in December.



Bike Repair Stations

Following on from the positive feedback on the initial rollout of Public Bike Repair Stations we are preparing to tender for another batch of Repair Units to be deployed around the County



Men's Walk & Talk Groups

Our Men's Walk & Talk Groups continue to meet each week in various locations across the County. There is no need to register, just find your group and turn up at the meeting point and time.

We are always looking for volunteers who would like to start their own group. Just email active.travel@fingal.ie and we will help you to get started.

All details of our Mens Walk & Talk groups can be found on our website
<https://www.fingal.ie/activetravel/menswalk>



Fingal Quiet Streets Community Nomination

The Active Travel unit have launched an online nomination form for the Quiet Streets Programme. This initiative allows residents of streets affected by excessive traffic and other road safety issues to nominate their residential street for participation in a 6-month trial of road safety measures which include modal filtering, a longstanding traffic measure in which some streets are kept as through routes for pedestrians and cyclists but motor vehicles can only access them from one direction using planters and bollards. Communities can nominate their residential street for consideration via an [online form](#) ; to be eligible for the scheme, streets must meet the criteria set out on our webpage, where communities can learn more about this programme <https://consult.fingal.ie/en/content/quiet-streets-fingal-nominate-my-street>



Fresh Air Friday

We have launched our Fresh Air Friday Challenge, with several new Fingal schools joining the initiative. Participating schools will be entered into a fun prize draw for a trip to Flynn Park / PE Supply Pack, and some active travel goodies. Participating schools just need to register online and then walk, cycle or scoot to school each Friday! Fresh Air Fridays can help to encourage a long-term behaviour change, improve the air quality around our towns and villages while also promoting a healthy start to the day. If your school or business are interested in signing up to Fresh Air Friday, simply contact active.travel@fingal.ie and we will help you get going.



Skerries Community Car

Between March 20th and April 16th the Community Car completed 80 of 98 requested trips, 14 of these were cancelled by the Hospital/User and 4 were cancelled due to a lack of volunteers/local link driver.

Month	Total Bookings	Total Trips	Appoint. Cancelled by Hospital	Missed Demand (no volunteer available)
Jan - Feb	104	100	4	0
Mar - Apr	98	80	14	4



Bike Share Schemes



Bleeper Bike

You can pick up a Bleeper bike easily. Just download the Bleeper app, scan the code on the bike to unlock it and you are on your way!

Bleeper Bike Update March 2024; key statistics

742 Bleeper bike journeys started within Fingal operating zone in February
751 bike journeys ended within existing Fingal operating zone
Highest usage recorded on Sundays (19%) and Fridays (18.6%)
Hartstown, Donabate & Blanchardstown were the most popular starting points.
Estimated emissions avoided: 341kg of CO2

TIER eBike Update

You can pick up a TIER e-bike easily. Just download the TIER app, scan the code on the e-bike to unlock it and you are on your way! The e-bikes are suitable for anyone over the age of 16 and note that a credit or debit card is required to sign up for the service.

TIER Mobility February 2024; Key Statistics

Metric	Details
Trips	1,555
No of Customers	648
Trips / Customer	2.4
Distance Covered (KM)	5.176
Average Trip Duration	15.4mins
Average Trip length (KM)	3.3km

ENVIRONMENT

Climate Action

The Fingal Climate Action Team attended the launch of all 31 Local Authority Climate Action Plans organised by the Climate Action Regional Offices (CARO) and the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications. Collectively there are almost 4,000 actions set out across the local authority plans. The plans demonstrate the ambition, focus and commitment of each local authority to reduce carbon emissions and improve the quality of life for people living, working and studying in each county.

This event also served as a networking opportunity for the local authorities providing a space to discuss future plans, collaboration opportunities and learn from individual experiences. The Climate Action teams visited a selection of sites in County Clare that demonstrated a variety of climate mitigation and adaptation measures.



The Fingal Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 is now available to view as Gaeilge here: <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2024-04/comhairle-contae-fhine-gall-plean-gniomhaithe-ar-son-na-haeraide-2024-2029-1.pdf>

Climate Action Awareness

The Climate Action Section recently visited the GLAS Community Garden in D15 and were given a tour and talk by the operators Global Action Plan. Also present were partners TUD Blanchardstown and Fingal's Community and Sports Department. The visit was designed to explore the possibility of using the garden space for upcoming climate action awareness and environmental awareness events for communities and schools. The tour showcased the array of trees, plants and different food items that have been planted by community volunteers and local school children. Environment Staff plan to utilise this garden space for food waste prevention talks and demonstrations during National Food Waste Recycling Week in June and for other awareness events throughout the year.



Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth Roderic O'Gorman TD and Hans Zomer CEO Global Action plan speaking to community groups and local school children. Photo courtesy Global Action Plan and Maxwells Photography.



L-R Naomi Weir and Natasha Bagnall - Fingal Communities Department, Fingal Mayor Cllr Adrian Henchy and Janice Butler, Claire Marshall and Niamh Moran Fingal's Climate Action Section, Environment Department at the GLAS garden 1-year anniversary celebration at TUD Blanchardstown on Friday 26th April.

Community Climate Action Fingal

The 25 Applications for Community Climate Action Fingal have been evaluated and are awaiting Director sign-off. Groups applied for the funding under five main themes, Energy, Travel, Food & Waste, Shopping & Recycling and Environmental and CLimate Action. A portfolio is being prepared for submission to the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications for the deadline 8th May.

Environmental Awareness

Keen to be Green

The Environmental Awareness officer met with participating Keen to be Green Community Centres in the Rediscovery Centre to organise and support Green Festivals in community centres this summer, food waste management and next steps in KTBG assessments.

Circular Economy Workshop: Estuary Recycling Centre



TY students received a tour of the Estuary Recycling Centre. Students learned about what items could be recycled in the Estuary Centre, the value of civic amenity centres and spoke of ways to prevent and reduce waste. This followed by a workshop in which students learned about the impacts of single use plastics, fast fashion and micro plastics and prevention of food waste.

Replay Instruments Project

10 schools received refurbished guitars and keyboards as part of the Replay Instruments Project. This initiative supplies schools and community groups with rescued and refurbished guitars saved from the Estuary and Coolmine Civic Amenity Centres. This project educates schools on the value of circular economy and promotes waste prevention and minimisation.

Recipients of Instruments in April

- Ardgillan Community College
- Portmarnock Community School
- Bremore Educate Together Secondary School
- Malahide Portmarnock Educate Together Secondary School
- St Francis Xavier
- Hartstown NS
- Blakestown CS
- Loreto Swords
- Belmayne ETNS
- Edmund Rice Dublin
- Eriu Community College
- Lusk CC
- Le Chéile Secondary School
- Colaiste Pobail Setanta

Feedback from schools:

I just want to say that firstly your instruments have been put to good use over the last few years with many students picking up guitar, piano, bass and drums. Just last month I dropped a keyboard to one of the students houses, she had just moved here from Sudan and had to leave all her own things behind, getting the keyboard brought some normality to her life again. I can't put into words how amazing it has been to be able to give these instruments to students so they can use them at home and in school, to you and your team, THANK YOU.

Thank you very much for the guitars, they've gone to great use.



Students from Edmund Rice College

Earth Day: Community Groups

To celebrate Earth Day on April 22nd, 104 community groups received a newsletter regarding the theme of Earth Day (reduction of single use plastics) and a tool kit of how to reduce and take action. <https://www.earthday.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/EarthDay-2024-Toolkit-March-12th-Update.pdf>

Learn more
rediscoverycentre.ie

FULLY FUNDED Sustainable Toy Workshops

for the Fingal County Council area



Be part of the Ireland's
sustainable toy festival!

These interactive workshops involve:

- Games, activities + discussions
- Exploring hands-on toy repair
- Brainstorming clever ways to rehome used toys
- Planning your very own Big Toy Swap!

What's included?

- Two/three fun + interactive workshops for your school
- Teachers' notes
- Comprehensive resources to host your own Big Toy Swap
- Printable posters
- Big Toy Swap postcard

Curriculum links:

- Science
- Maths
- Geography

Suitable for
3rd - 6th class groups

These subsidised workshops are kindly part-funded by Fingal County Council to provide workshops completely free of charge to primary schools and libraries in the county council area

jiminy REDISCOVERY CENTRE Saving the planet, one toy at a time epa

Earth Day: Schools

In partnership with the Rediscovery Centre, and as part of Earth Day, 16 fully funded Toy workshops were offered to primary schools in Fingal. Each school will receive a minimum of two workshops which uses active learning methodologies and games to explore the impacts of single use plastic. Students will learn about circular economy, how to run a toy swap shop and toy repair.

Participating schools so far below:

- Scoil Phadraig Caitlin Donabate
- St Oliver Plunket GNS Malahide
- Skerries ETNS Skerries
- St Francis Xavier NS Blanchardstown
- Scoil Bhríde Buachaillí Blanchardstown

Skerries Educate Together National School

Skerries Educate Together National school invited Environmental Awareness Officer to discuss their plans for achieving their Biodiversity flag and establishing a wildflower garden. The Green Schools Committee made a presentation about litter waste in their school and how they were running quizzes and workshops for students.



Litter display board in Skerries Educate Together National School



Biodiversity display board Skerries Educate Together

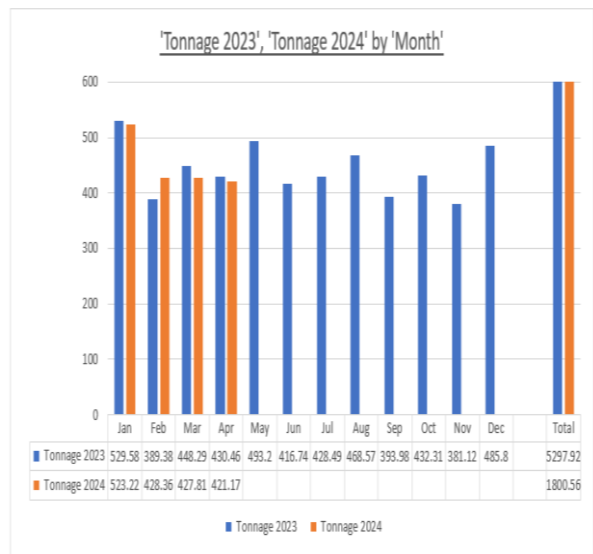
Litter Pickers- supporting clean ups

Litter pickers were provided to community groups in Mulhuddart and Clonsilla to support community clean ups.



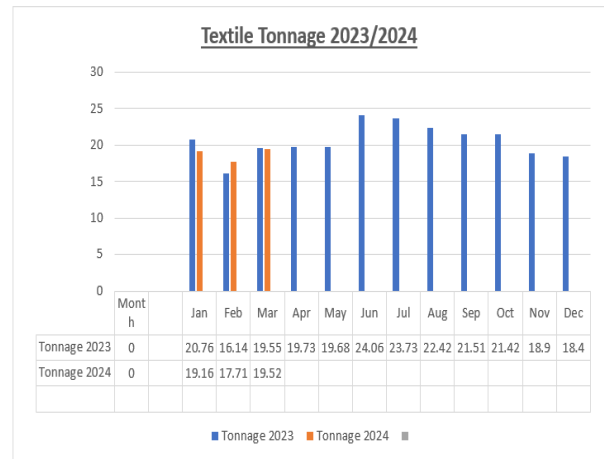
Bring Centres

Bottle Banks



Total Glass Tonnages during **April 2024** have been recorded as **421 (T)**. The comparable figure for April 2023 was 430 (T).

Textile Banks



Textile Tonnages recorded during **March 2024** were **19.51 (T)**. Textiles Tonnage for the same period in March 2023 were 19.55 (T).

Litter Management

The Litter Wardens continued with their daily patrols and carried out inspections on all known litter black spots in Fingal. They investigated any reports of dumping and littering and took enforcement action as required.



The Litter wardens continued to receive several complaints regarding muck on the roads from construction sites. They carried out inspections and ensured that the roads were being keep clean of muck and that the building sites had a road sweeper in operation.



They also followed up on reports to ensure farmers were ensuring the roads were keep clean of muck.



The Litter warden continued to raise awareness of the issue of dog fouling on beaches, paths, and green areas in Fingal. They engaged with dog owners and dispensed dog poo bags, making people aware of their responsibilities to clean up after their dogs. They also erected anti dog fouling signage in areas where complaints were received. The Litter Warden conducted walking patrols, engaging with business regarding their responsibilities to keep outside their premises clean and free of litter. They also checked to see if any issues have arisen for the Operations crews, and they carried out inspections and followed up with fines/warning notice if evidence found.

All the bring banks in the Fingal area were inspected daily to ensure that there was no dumping. Any evidence found was dealt with under the Litter Pollution Acts.

The Litter Warden also investigated reports of abandoned cars, taking photographs and updating the litter app and the CRM system.

There were 9 cases before the district court in April 2024. They were successful prosecuted, and costs awarded.

Month	Fines	Warning Notices
January	29	4
February	56	2
March	18	3
April	15	0

The Litter Management section receive numerous complaints regarding litter enforcement and **the following cases were assigned to the Litter Warden under the CRM system.**

CRMs April 2024	Amount
Env - Dog Fouling	3
Env - Fly tipping 1-20 bags equivalent	30
Env – Fly tipping 20 bags Equivalent	2
Env - General Litter Issue	14
Env – Littering at Bottle Banks	9
Env – Muck on road	3
Env litter incident with witness	5
Env - Pollution - Dog Fouling Signage -	5
Env – Abandoned cars	39

Abandoned Vehicles

There have been 154 reports of alleged Abandoned Vehicles received between 1st January 2024 – 25th April 2024. Burnt-out vehicles are also reported to the Environment Department.

The Litter Wardens carry out an initial inspection of all reported abandoned and burnt-out vehicles. To report a suspected abandoned vehicle the following information is required and should be emailed to environment@fingal.ie

- Vehicle Registration
- Colour / Make / Model
- Exact Location
- Period of time that vehicle has not been moved
- Name and Contact Number of person reporting the vehicle

Information on Abandoned Vehicles can be found on the Fingal County Council website:

<https://www.fingal.ie/council/service/abandoned-vehicles>

Month	Abandoned Vehicles			Burnt Out Vehicles		
	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
January	0	0	0	0	1	6
February	0	1	2	1	0	0
March	3	1	2	0	1	3
April	2	0	2	0	0	0
May	1	0		0	0	
June	0	0		0	5	
July	0	1		0	0	
August	2	0		0	3	
September	0	3		0	0	
October	2	0		0	0	
November	2	4		1	0	
December	1	0		1	0	
	13	10	6	3	10	9



Dog Warden Service

The Dog Wardens continue to carry out enforcement in relation to breaches of the Control of Dogs Act 1986, Control of Dog Regulations 1998, Parks and Open Spaces byelaws and Beach and Foreshore byelaws. They also educate dog owners on the responsibilities of keeping a dog and remind owners to pick up after their pets when in public places. The Dog Wardens also increase their patrols of the beaches during the summer months to optimise bathing water quality and retain the status of Fingal's Blue Flag beaches.

The Dog Wardens are continuing with door-to-door licence checks. Dog owners should ensure that they hold a valid licence for their dog and if issued with a 10-day notice by the dog wardens, should present their licence to controlofdogs@fingal.ie within the 10 days provided on the notice. Failure to do so may result in a fine being issued for failing to produce a dog licence when requested to do so by a dog warden and keeping a dog without a valid licence.

There were 277 x 10 Day Notices and 35 Fines issued by the dog wardens during April 24.

Month	10 Day Notices		Fines Issued		Fines Paid	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
January	217	40	20	68	€1497	€7,800
February	297	13	38	32	€1735	€2,600
March	234	97	40	29	€2425	€2,100
April	277	152	35	42	€1973	€1,500
May	0	232		98	€0	€2,956
June	0	135		53	€0	€2,700
July	0	109		35	€0	€2,644.20
August	0	140		21	€0	€1,500
September	0	125		40	€0	€3,549
October	0	241		40	€0	€1,500
November	0	91		7	€0	€1,100
December	0	222		12	€0	€1,422.50
TOTAL	1025	1597	133	477	€5657	€31,372

The Animal Welfare Section received 32 complaints in relation to dogs up to 25th April 2024.

Service	No of complaints per service during April 2024 (figs to 25 April)
Env - Dog Fine Appeal	2
Env - Dog on Dog Attack	3
Env - Dog on Person Attack	0
Env - Pollution - Issue with Dog	9
Env - Restricted Breed Dog	4
Env - Surrendered Dog	1
Env - Stray Dog	13
Grand Total	32

Dog Licences and Fines

The below table shows the number of annual and lifetime licences purchased during April 2024 in comparison with the same months in 2023. An annual dog licence fee is €20 and a lifetime dog licence fee is €140. We will continue to promote the requirement for a dog licence on social media platforms. It is a legal requirement to hold a valid licence for any dog you own or are responsible for under the Control of Dogs Act 1986. Failing to hold a valid licence for a dog that you are own or are responsible for can incur a fine.

Month	Annual Licences Purchased		Lifetime Licences Purchased		Income from Licences	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
January	945	635	80	65	€30,200	€21,800
February	915	562	54	58	€25,860	€19,360
March	662	561	48	55	€19,960	€18,900
April	631	451	44	41	€ 18,780	€14,760
May		918		64	€	€27,320
June		516		41	€	€16,060
July		766		47	€	€21,900
August		838		51	€	€23,900
September		759		48	€	€21,900
October		670		30	€	€17,600
November		662		41	€	€18,980
December		626		37	€	€17,700
Total for year	3587	7964	434	578	€30,200	€240,180

The Dublin County Dog Shelter holds “Meet and Greet” visits for anyone looking to rehome a dog. Visits can be arranged by calling the shelter and arranging an appointment. These visits can be arranged from Monday – Friday from 11am to 1pm and from 2pm to 3.30pm. The shelter is also open on Saturday from 11am – 1pm. The shelter is closed to the public on Sundays. The dog shelter holds stray dogs picked up by the dog warden and dogs who have been surrendered by their owners either to the dog wardens or directly to the shelter. At the beginning of April there were 23 dogs in the shelter. During April 2024, 10 dogs were brought to the shelter by the Dog Wardens as stray or surrenders and 2 dogs was surrendered by a members of the public.

Of these 23 dogs, 0 has been reclaimed by their owner, 5 dogs have been rehomed to rescue, 4 have been rehomed to members of the public and 0 were PTS. At the end of April there are 26 dogs remaining in the shelter. The shelter has a Facebook page Dublin County Dog Shelter and Instagram Account @dublincountydogshelter which they actively update with strays and dogs wishing to be rehomed.

Dogs in Shelter at the start of April 2023	9	Dogs in Shelter at start of April 2024	23
Stray/Seized dogs brought to Shelter	13	Stray/Seized dogs brought to Shelter	10
Surrendered by owners	3	Surrendered by owners	2
Reclaimed	4	Reclaimed	0
Rehomed to Rescue	3	Rehomed to Rescue	5
Rehomed to Public	5	Rehomed to Public	4
PTS	3	PTS	0
Dogs in Shelter at the end of April 2023	25	Dogs in shelter at the end of April 2024	26



Bonzo above gone to rescue. He came in as a stray and unfortunately was never reclaimed, so good news for him he has a chance now of being adopted and finding his forever home.



Zira seems to like other dogs and might be suitable to a home with another dog pending a meet and greet. She came into the shelter as a stray and unfortunately was never reclaimed! She is an XL bully, approximately 10 months old. She is a big and bouncy girl. She loves to play with her toys. Her favourite seems to be squeaky toys.

'It's not your dog's fault, it's yours'

On 22nd April 2024, Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD, launched a major national awareness campaign to remind dog owners of their responsibilities. The campaign, entitled 'It's not your dog's fault, it's yours' is aimed at increasing awareness of the harm that out-of-control dogs can do to people and to livestock. The goal is to change behaviour and to remind owners that they must always have their dog under control. This message will be communicated via our social media platforms and links will be available from our website.

https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/1a517-responsible-dog-ownership/?referrer=https://www.gov.ie/dogs/&gad_source=1&gclid=EAlaIqOBChMioLupuNTdhQMVTZNQBh0d_gZnEAAYASAEGlfPD_BwE



Your dog is your responsibility

Dogs can be wonderful companions, bringing happiness to people's lives.

Being a dog owner is a privilege, but it comes with a lot of responsibilities.

Sometimes even the best behaved dogs can attack or bite.

Dog owners are responsible for keeping their dogs under control. If your dog injures people or animals, or damages property, you are legally responsible.

Your dog is your responsibility.

Whatever they do, it's not your dog's fault.

It's yours.



Horses

Weekly welfare inspections continue on Dunsink Landfill to monitor the numbers and welfare of the horses onsite. There are 15 hay feeders being filled by the Operations Department on a weekly basis to ensure adequate forage for the horses on the landfill.



Environmental Inspections (RMCEI)

The numbers of complaints investigated and inspections carried out during the first quarter of 2024 are presented in Appendix 4.

Water Quality **River Bracken**

The water quality team has continued with its weekly investigative monitoring of the River Bracken which in conjunction with the Drainage Department has unearthed another significant misconnection in the surface water drainage network serving Balbriggan. The removal of this misconnection will result in further improvements in the quality of water in the River Bracken.

National Inspection Plan

The WQ team commenced inspections of Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems (DWWTS) in accordance with the 2024 National Inspection Plan. There were a number of on site DWWTS inspected in the Rolestown Area. Inspections to date has identified a high level of compliance with the NIP Programme.

Bathing Water:

Fingal County Council's preparations for the 2024 Bathing Season continues. Fingal County Council has now completed and has submitted bathing water profiles for each of its identified bathing areas to the EPA. The purpose of a bathing water profile is to give detailed information on the physical characteristic of each bathing water while also assessing the risk of pollution to the bathing area.

PFAS Pollution

Dublin Airport PFAS contamination, Dublin Airport responded to a notice issued under the water pollution act requiring the submission of information on PFAS testing. The information was also published by the Airport on their website. The information is being assessed and, in this regard, we have engaged external advice from a specialist firm dealing with land contamination: Geosyntec Ltd.

Waste Enforcement

Cloughwater Plastics Ireland Ltd

In 2023 the Council commenced high court proceedings against Cloughwater Plastics Ltd Ireland (CPIL) a waste facility permit holder processing waste plastics.

Liquidation proceedings were taken against the company in 2023. The Council was concerned about the amount of waste on site and joined the proceedings to ensure that the liquidation would deal with the waste on site. The liquidation proceedings were subsequently withdrawn. Subsequent inspections revealed that the waste on site was in excess of that permitted by the waste facility permit, the Council initiated high court proceedings under the waste management act to enforce the terms of the permit. There were a number of hearings and site inspections. The company finally went into liquidation in February 2024. The case is not finished yet, however the issues are largely resolved as the site has been taken over by a new operator following the liquidation who has dealt with the remaining waste.

There is a risk to the council that when a waste site closes down that they leave waste behind. In this case the cost of a cleanup could have amounted to more than 350k euro. The cost of taking a high court action is high in the Council's costs were 200k and the court awarded our costs against the other parties to the case, (the Company now in liquidation, the two directors) however it remains to be seen how much we will be able to collect. This case involved 21 site inspections by FCC staff, 4 affidavits, 7 court appearances. The estimated staff time amounted to 38 days in total.

Court cases – storage of waste

Two cases related to storage of waste were heard by the District Court in early April.

In the first case relating to a property in Turnapin the Defendant did not appear in Court and was found guilty of breaches of Section 32 and 55 of the Waste Management Act, 1966, as amended, guilty of breaches of Regulations 4(3) of the Prohibition of Waste Disposal by Burning Regulations 2009, and of breaches of waste Bye-Laws.

The defendant was fined €500 on each breach (total fine €2,000) and costs of €1,166.92 were awarded to Fingal County Council.

In the second case relating to a property in Swords, the Defendant did not appear in Court and was found guilty of 12 offences under Section 32 of the Waste Management Act, 1996, as amended (WMA) and of 1 offence under Section 55 of WMA. The defendant was fined €500 on each offence (total fine €6,500) and costs of €2,166 awarded to Fingal County Council. A bench Warrant was also issued for the defendant to appear in court in front of the judge.

Air & Noise Section

The section has engaged with the IAA over the nuisance complaints arising from the operation of the new drone delivery service in Blanchardstown. The IAA have received complaints directly themselves and have identified potential mitigation measures, i.e varying flight paths and seeking to raise the height of the flight paths.

Sports Office

Fingal's First Irish Wheelchair Association Club

Fingal IWA Multi-Sport Club, a collaborative initiative between IWA-Sport and Fingal County Council Sport Office, was successfully launched at Balbriggan Community College. Catering to children aged 5-15 with physical disabilities, the club provided a platform for young to teens to explore various para sports every week from 6:30pm to 7:30pm. Activities include wheelchair basketball, para athletics, wheelchair rugby, the programme has over 20 participants benefiting from the inclusive sessions and forming teams in the above sports.



Men on the Move to Everyone on the Move

Men on the Move was a programme originally funded by the HSE, this programme was established to create a space for men to engage or reengage back into physical activity. Following the introduction of Fingal's Sport Strategy the programme is now open to all genders and has seen participant rates increase by 75% by opening the programmes to all in Mulhuddart and Balbriggan.



Fingal Tennis Nursing Home Programme

Tennis is a timeless sport that everyone can enjoy. Fingal Sport for Life Programme is dedicated to bringing tennis to the older generation, tennis coaches have been visiting nursing homes across Fingal introducing the sport through fun interactive sessions. Along the way, Fingal Tennis are reconnecting with past players from various clubs and communities. The players are thoroughly enjoying the lively atmosphere and excitement generated during these sessions.



Fingal's Late Night League

Fingal's Late Night League in conjunction with FAI and Balbriggan's community gardai began on 12th April and has seen an uptake of 50 participants per week. This initiative is seeing a positive relationship with teens and the local Gardai who attend the sessions every Friday evening. Swords Late Night League will start 10th May in Rivervalley and Blanchardstown will begin the same Friday in Whitestown.



Fingal Tandem Bike Training

Fingal Sports Office, Active Travel and Vision Sport Ireland collaborated on Saturday to establish tandem bike pilot training for participants to support a person who is visually impaired. The training took place in Fingal Swords carpark with hope that the participants will support athletes going forward who wish to try to cycle.



Fingal's Athletics League

This year's Fingal Athletics League launched in February with 62 primary schools and over 2,700 students participating in the cross-country running programme. Schools have been training over the past 6 weeks in preparation for the race meets and the second meet for Dublin 15 schools took place in Porterstown Park on 19th March with 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th class students from 26 local schools coming together to compete. The first race meet for North County schools took place in Newbridge House on 21st March with students representing 36 schools. Final's Day of the Athletics League ALSAA Sports Complex on 24th April, the day saw 2,700 school students take part in the day, St Patricks National School, Diswellstown, Castleknock came on top with points winning Overall School Champion and Balbriggan Educate Together School won the Green Award, the first year of this award for schools who travelled by bus, are working towards Green Flag, Fresh Air Friday and complete walking and bike buses to school.



FINANCE

Contents

Rates

Development Level Income

Payroll

Procurement

Financial Reports – Appendix 1

(a) Revenue Account Income & expenditure to 30th April, 2024

(b) Capital Account Income & Expenditure to 30th April, 2024

(c) Summary of Corporate Debtors to 30th April, 2024

Financial Reports – Appendix 2

Contracts Awarded

The tables below outlines key financial statics at the end.

Rates

Overall Commercial Rates collection to the end of April 2024 is running at 53%.

Rates Collection	
Rates collected €m	€ 87.0m
Rates collected %	53%

Development Levy Income

Development levy income collected to the end of April is €5.7m this is c.68% of the overall collection for same period in 2023.

Development Levy Income	
Levies Receipted	€5.7m
Levies Collected as a % of 2023	68%

Payroll

Overall payroll spend to the end of April is €28.4m which is c. 97.% of the budget year to date.

Payroll	
Salaries & Wages €m	28.4
Percentage of Budget YTD.	97.0%

Procurement

Outlined below is a summary of the overall procurement activity at end of April

No. of contracts awarded (details below) for year to date	88	
Value €m	15.4m	
Procurements ongoing at end of April		
No. of procurements awaiting tender responses	11	(i)
Value €m	214.7m	
No. of procurements under evaluation	55	(ii)
Value €m	373.3m	
No. of procurements at approved	4	(iii)
Value €m	1m	

Notes:

(i) Procurements awaiting tender responses – tender responses awaited at end of April.

(ii) Procurements under evaluation – tender responses submitted and being evaluated at end of the April.

(iii) Procurements at approved – Tender responses have been evaluated and approved. Pre- contract award processes ongoing at end of April.

Appendix 1 (a)

REVENUE ACCOUNT INCOME & EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION AT 30 APR 2024

	EXPENDITURE			INCOME			NET
	Expenditure €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Spent to date	Income €	Adopted Full year Budget €	% Budget Raised	€
Housing & Building	31,602,750	105,932,600	30%	33,200,141	108,268,800	31%	-1,597,391
Road Transport & Safety	12,362,960	36,130,600	34%	2,972,681	9,056,100	33%	9,390,280
Water Services	5,817,026	14,369,700	40%	5,664,812	17,039,600	33%	152,214
Development Management	7,200,517	20,845,600	35%	2,027,716	6,574,000	31%	5,172,802
Environmental Services	16,392,314	48,453,500	34%	3,642,811	10,947,500	33%	12,749,503
Recreation & Amenity	18,152,179	56,603,300	32%	1,595,300	4,841,800	33%	16,556,878
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	737,032	1,513,800	49%	108,181	409,700	26%	628,851
Miscellaneous Services	6,692,223	21,972,500	30%	8,497,692	29,279,600	29%	-1,805,468
Central Management Charge	17,129,526	56,075,600	31%	1,309,626	3,969,700	33%	15,819,901
Local Property Tax / GPG				4,122,100	12,366,300	33%	-4,122,100
Rates				53,048,033	159,144,100	33%	-53,048,033
	116,086,527	361,897,200	32%	116,189,092	361,897,200	32%	-102,565

Appendix 1 (b)

CAPITAL ACCOUNT						
INCOME & EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION TO 30/04/2024						
		Balance at 0/01/2024 €		Expenditure YTD €		Income YTD €
						Balance at 30/04/2024 €
A	Housing & Building	-25,708,012		79,819,157		-12,531,660
B	Road Transport & Safety	11,742,410		13,710,295		-1,107,427
C	Water Services	-11,305,335		769,380		-287,605
D	Development Management	-142,996,695		16,023,108		-12,498,703
E	Environmental Services	-14,590,477		1,467,021		-607,152
F	Recreation & Amenity	-18,558,433		4,111,941		-1,174,957
H	Miscellaneous Services	-48,898,202		4,244,487		-5,015,992
	Total	-250,314,744		120,145,390		-33,223,496

Appendix 1 (c)

SUMMARY OF CORPORATE DEBTORS TO 30/04/2024				
	Balance at 01/01/2024*	Balance at 30/04/2024	Current debt	> 1 Year
	€	€	€	€
RATES*	€2,579,534	€75,719,789	€73,613,968	€2,105,820
LOANS	€2,130,036.51	€2,143,474	€229,585.44	€1,913,888.80
RENTS	€10,216,580	€10,145,318	€4,736,878	€5,408,440

Figures for rents and loans are unadjusted by credits/prepayments

* value of debit at 31/12/2023 was €3.2m with a credit of €653,644.

Appendix 2

Number of Contracts Awarded for year to date

Dept	Description of Procurement	Supplier Name	Current Value of Contract (excl. VAT)	Contract Start Date (actual)	Contract End Date (actual)	Contract Award Date	Original Duration (months)
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Engineering Consultancy Services for the Bremore Recreational Hub Access Upgrade Works	Design ID Consulting Ltd	€ 56,334.00	26/02/2024	28/06/2024	26/02/2024	4
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Undertake a Strategic Environmental Assessment, Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening and Appropriate Assessment, if required for LAP at Flemington	Brady, Shipman Martin	€ 28,120.00	17/11/2023	17/11/2024	26/02/2024	12
Housing	Civil & Structural Engineering Services for proposed housing developments at North Street, Swords and Rathmore Road, Lusk, Co. Dublin	Tobin Consulting Engineers	€ 73,000.00	01/12/2023	31/12/2026	23/02/2024	37
Digital Services	Provision of Web Based Applications for Housing Application	Interform Limited	€ 90,000.00	17/02/2024	31/12/2024	16/02/2024	12
Digital Services	Renewal of Licencing of AutoDESK Suites of Software	Diatec Group	€ 60,113.00	01/03/2024	28/02/2025	16/02/2024	12
Digital Services	Managed Print Services	Datapac Ireland	€ 70,000.00	27/08/2024	26/08/2025	15/02/2024	12
EETCD	Upgrade of fire alarm system at Ardgillen Castle	Securitas Technology	€ 30,830.00	01/03/2024	31/03/2024	12/02/2024	1
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Woodland Management Services	Redwood Tree Services Ltd	€ 45,500.00	10/02/2024	10/05/2024	09/02/2024	3
Operations	Hire of Excavator & Operator at the Former Dunsink Landfill & Environs	Anthony Patton Plant Hire Ltd	€ 82,000.00	16/01/2024	15/01/2025	08/02/2024	12
Operations	Fingal Bridge Repair and Rehabilitation	Triur Construction	€ 268,762.00	01/02/2024	01/05/2024	08/02/2024	3
Libraries	Demolition and Enabling Works at Former St. Michaels House Bungalow, Seatown Road	Hegarty Demolition Ltd.	€ 120,243.00	12/02/2024	29/03/2025	08/02/2024	14
Operations	Installation of Traffic Signals 2024	Traffic Solutions Ltd	€ 731,606.00	12/02/2024	31/12/2024	08/02/2024	11
Corporate Affairs	Mobile Voice & Data Communications and Associated Products & Services	Vodafone	€ 1,008,052	01/11/2023	31/10/2027	07/02/2024	48
Operations	Tree Works in the Dublin 15 Area	Redwood Tree Services Ltd	€ 64,880.00	04/02/2024	29/02/2024	06/02/2024	1
Housing	Integrated Design Team Services to provide design, planning Consultancy Services to establish a design framework plan and achieve planning approval for c.300 Units at Mooretown, Swords, Co. Dublin	Brady, Shipman Martin	€ 510,963.00	01/11/2023	31/12/2024	01/02/2024	56

Operations	Requirement for Road Lining Contract for the Fingal Swords, Balbriggan Areas Including PSCS	MacLochlainn (Roadmarkings) Limited	€ 58,796.60	24/01/2024	31/12/2024	31/01/2024	12
Operations	Disposal of Marine Wrecks located in Balbriggan Harbour	Shanowen Plant Hire Ltd	€ 154,450.00	01/03/2024	30/04/2024	29/01/2024	2
Operations	Supply & Delivery of Macadam to various locations in Fingal	Roadstone Ltd	€ 97,630.00	01/01/2024	31/12/2024	29/01/2024	12
Digital Services	Supply of Broadband to Malahide 9Avoca), Ardgillan House & Ballycoolin Training Centre	Viatel Ireland Ltd	€ 26,160.00	01/03/2024	28/02/2026	26/01/2024	24
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Landscape Architect Led Integrated Design Team Services Consultancy Services at Naul Village Park, the Naul	Dermot Foley Landscape Architects	€ 316,577.00	06/11/2023	05/09/2027	25/01/2024	46
EETCD	Tradfest	TASCQ CLG t/a The Temple Bar Company	€ 120,000.00	01/01/2024	31/12/2024	25/01/2024	12
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Supply of Pleached Lime Trees and Yew Hedging	Annaveigh Plants Ltd	€ 29,895.00	30/10/2023	29/10/2024	19/01/2024	12
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Topographical and Underwater Survey at Ward River Park, Swords	Murphy Geospatial Ltd	€ 25,980.00	30/01/2024	30/03/2024	18/01/2024	2
Digital Services	Supply an ICT Managed Service for Fingal County Council	ATOS IT Solutions & Services Ltd	€ 594,114.00	28/02/2024	27/08/2024	17/01/2024	6
EETCD	Programme Development Manager for Carnegie Library Swords	Linda Shevlin	€ 56,000.00	15/01/2024	14/01/2025	15/01/2024	12
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Works for Naul Village Park Site Investigation	IGSL Ltd	€ 40,125.00	15/01/2024	20/02/2024	15/01/2024	1
Digital Services	Departmental access to Lawlink	Dye & Durham Ltd	€ 43,944.00	16/01/2024	31/12/2024	15/01/2024	12
Corporate Affairs	Integrated Design Team Services for Workplace Strategy Project	MCO Projects Limited	€ 325,663.00	15/01/2024	14/12/2025	15/01/2024	23
Corporate Affairs	Post Collection Service	Print Post Ltd	€ 36,250.00	01/01/2024	31/03/2024	11/01/2024	3
Operations	Resurfacing of Section of Bath Avenue, Malahide	John McQuillan Contracts Ltd	€ 52,957.00	05/02/2024	01/03/2024	11/01/2024	3 weeks
People Services	Occupational Health Services	Dr. Ted Murphy	€ 111,600.00	01/01/2024	31/12/2025	02/01/2024	24
Operations	Provision of Maintenance of Earth Moving Equipment	Equipment Company of Ireland Ltd	€ 32,230.00	01/12/2023	30/11/2025	02/01/2024	24
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Provision of Services for Independent Agronomist for the Fingal Coastal Way	Hackett Agricultural Consultants	€ 39,700.00	02/01/2024	31/12/2024	02/01/2024	14
Digital Services	Requirement for Support in the Development of an Investment Concept for FC EUCF Grant Funded Project	BABLE Smart Cities GmbH	€ 50,000.00	01/01/2024	31/12/2024	01/01/2024	12
Housing	Inspections on Private Rented Dwellings located in the Admin Area of Fingal County Council	Arthurstown Construction Limited	€ 165,000.00	01/01/2024	31/03/2024	01/01/2024	3
Operations	Provision of Vehicle and Plant Inspection Services	Truck & Trailer works Ireland	€ 79,600.00	01/01/2024	31/12/2025	01/01/2024	24

Appendix 3 (a)

Summary of Environmental Complaints, Inspections and Enforcement Actions

		2023	Q1 2024
Complaints investigated	Litter	389	241
	Waste (non C&D)	638	171
	C&D Waste	9	0
	Water and Wastewater	101	19
	Air & Odour	37	17
	Noise	99	23
	TOTAL COMPLAINTS	1,273	471
Inspections	Routine Waste Inspections	1124	3015
	Non-Routine Waste Inspections	416	88
	Litter Patrols & investigations	3232	561
	Routine Water & Wastewater Inspections	720	188
	Non-Routine Water & Wastewater Inspections	133	36
	Routine Air & Noise Inspections	61	8
	Non-Routine Air & Noise Inspections	134	40
	Planning Inspections	416	79
	TOTAL INSPECTIONS	6,236	3,103
Enforcement Actions	Litter Fines	463	
	Waste Warning Letters	96	5
	Directions under S14 of WMA	101	15
	Other waste enforcement	52	3
	Water & Wastewater	29	3
	Air Enforcement Action	0	0
	Noise Enforcement Action	10	6
	TOTAL ENFORCEMENT	751	
Prosecutions initiated	Litter	62	
	Waste	16	0
	TOTAL PROSECUTIONS	78	

Appendix 3 (b)

Active Travel Investment Grants: Allocations		
Project Code:	Project Name & Funding Allocation 2024	Comments
FCC/20/0004	Bicycle Parking €100,000	Contractor is gearing up to complete bike parking stands in various locations across the county. Further work packages are being developed by the team for Swords and Dublin 15 areas. Ongoing liaison with Operations and Parks to agree suitable locations for bike parking.
FCC/21/0001	Snugborough Road – NAC to Ongar €100,000	The consultant has received the stage 1 road safety audit on the emerging preferred option. The drawings are now being updated taking this audit into account. Stakeholder engagement continues with the Bus Connects project team for a proposed new signalised junction at Waterville. A draft preliminary design report has been issued to the Active Travel Unit with comments sent back. Further updates will be provided over the coming months, through this report and at ACM level.
FCC/21/0002	Baldoyle to Howth €100,000	<p>A review of the existing road network in Baldoyle is on the Active Travel Unit's programme for 2024-2025. This will include Willie Nolan Road, Brookstone Road and Main Street. It will comprise an advancement of a previous study for the improvement of pedestrian and cycle facilities on the existing road network.</p> <p>Preparation of the brief for consultants will begin in Q2, 2024, in line with the Fingal County Development Plan, the Climate Action Plan and an Active Travel Strategy for Fingal.</p> <p>Once a further study and preferred option has emerged from the process, it is envisaged that the scheme will progress, subject to funding from the National Transport Authority (NTA).</p>
FCC/21/0006	Clonee to Blanchardstown Shopping Centre €100,000	All data collection has been collated and has informed the initial development of the options report. Initial discussions have taken place with local landowners. The design consultant has been issued with an updated review of the draft Options report and drawings following input from the Active Travel team. Once reviewed a workshop will be held with the NTA.

FCC/22/0001	Castleknock to Dunsink Lane €150,000	<p>This project is now focusing on Auburn Avenue linking into the Royal Canal at the 12th Lock along the Old Navan Road. The Options Report and relevant drawings for Auburn Avenue have been reviewed and approved by the NTA in compliance with the Gateway 2 Hold Point requirements.</p> <p>A stage 1 road safety audit has been carried out and comments taken into consideration with drawings updated accordingly. Photomontages of the emerging preferred option have been prepared in advance of a public consultation with information leaflets being drafted for a letter drop to the wider area. Draft EIA and AA screening reports have also been submitted for review.</p>
FCC/22/0004	Hartstown/Huntstown/Mountview Rd D1 €100,000	<p>It is proposed to use a newly formed Single Party Framework to progress design from earlier work carried out by the Cycle Design Office. A tender competition has been published to engage the design consultant for phase 2b in this regard. The tender competition is now closed and is under assessment. Fingal County Council will progress on finalising the detailed design for roundabout and junction upgrades. This is subject to revision of design standards to ensure compliance with the new National Cycle Manual.</p>
FCC/22/0005	St. Cronan's Ave & Brackenstown Rd €100,000	<p>Contractor is commencing in May extending the cycle lanes through Murrough Road and Rathbeale Junction to tie-in with the existing cycle network in the area.</p>
FCC/22/0006	Rathingle/Rivervalley Rd. Swords €500,000	<p>Design works for phase 2b the modification of the existing roundabout is currently being discussed with the NTA.</p>
FCC/22/0007	Balbriggan Road Mill Street and Drogheda Street €50,000	<p>The project team are currently assessing a draft set of procurement documentation for the appointment of an Integrated Design Team. Stage 2 of the Tender Process will be [published on Etenders in May with the aim of appointing a design team in June of this year.</p>
FCC/22/0009	Permeability Links North County €350,000	<p>Several projects are still being identified and assessed via multi criteria analysis. We are also in ongoing discussions with Operations to incorporate other works in order to get best value for money when we go to delivery of these works. Active Travel are progressing with some of these projects and works on the ground.</p>
FCC/22/0010	R132 Ministers Rd to Blakes Cross + Kilhedge Lane €625,000	<p>The Contractor commenced on site during September 2023. The main civil works and junction upgrades are now complete including approximately 95% of the surfacing works. Kilhedge Lane was resurfaced and anti-skid surfacing was applied in front of Corduff National School in April.</p>

FCC/22/0011	Skerries – Harbour Road €150,000	Project team are currently reviewing the Pre-Planning Report received in April from the Planning Department. All comments and feedback will be reviewed and addressed in the project documentation and drawings where necessary before proceeding to planning and stakeholder engagement.
FCC/22/0012	Seatown Roundabout to Estuary Rd (Swords to Malahide) €150,000	Engineering consulting are finalising the Non-Statutory Public Consultation Report is due to be released shortly. Works to complete the screening reports and detailed drawings are well underway and it is anticipated to go to the market for a works contractor later this year subject to funding and NTA approvals.
FCC/22/0014	Balbriggan – Coney Hill from Devlin Bridge to Bremore Cottages €50,000	Consultant is finalising concept drawings and options report which is expected to be submitted to the project team in the coming weeks.
FCC/22/0015	Rush South Beach (Bawn Rd across carpark and out to South Shore. €500,000	We are continuing engagement with Property Section about acquisition of lands in this area. Works are also ongoing to look at options in this area that will serve not only this project but that will benefit the Fingal Coastal way route options. further discussions with landowner are scheduled.
FCC/22/0016	New Street Public Realm Project €300,000	Fingal County Council has received notification of a Judicial Review proceedings challenging the Part 8 approval for the Public Realm Improvements. Fingal County Council's Legal team are currently taking instructions in relation to this. The Active Travel Unit intend to tender the detailed design phase of this project in Q2, 2024.
FCC/22/0018	Data collection for Active Travel Projects €50,000	Traffic, air, noise etc
FCC/22/0019	Skerries Active Travel Plan €250,000	Tender competition is completed for Stage 1 of the process. Stage 2 documents are currently under review and will be released to the shortlisted consultants through Etenders in May.

FCC/22/0020	Balrothery Active Travel Review €50,000	<p>The Consultant is in the process of incorporating Fingal County Council's comments on the draft report they produced following a well-attended non-statutory consultation event on 20th February 2024.</p> <p>The Consultant is also in the process of identifying Key Performance Indicators for Active Travel in Balrothery, for agreement with the Active Travel Unit. Different approaches to a solution are being developed to deliver Active Travel in Balrothery. Each of these approaches will be examined against the Key Performance Indicators for various locations across Balrothery to determine a best-fit approach.</p> <p>The Consultant is in the process of identifying and refining a list of interventions under these different approaches to address the issues raised during the consultation. This list will comprise both smaller interventions, as well as bigger moves.</p> <p>The next steps are to obtain baseline survey information in Q2, 2024.</p>
FCC/22/0021	Seamount Heights to Old Golf Links Park Active Travel Route €100,000	<p>The design brief and tender documents have been prepared. It is intended to publish this tender as soon as possible to progress this project from the design phases through to completion as soon as possible.</p> <p>The design will incorporate feedback from internal FCC stakeholders and the local Resident's Association.</p> <p>A temporary footpath was constructed in December 2023, to provide safe access to the Old Golf Links site and paths through the park, providing safe connectivity to Seamount Heights.</p> <p>The Developer on the Seamount Road side has recently reopened the access, which is now through the new development, closing the temporary footpath.</p>

FCC/22/0022	Broomfield to Paddy's Hill via Naomh Mearnog GAA €100,000	It is intended to run a tender competition in Q2, 2024 for 'Concept Development and Options Selection'. Preparation of the brief and tender documents have begun. Enabling works have been completed to provide connectivity from Paddy's Hill Car Park to St. Helen's Junior School and Limetree Avenue. This included tree surgeon works, footpath works, new access points to the school, ramps, table-top crossings, dropped kerbs and ramps on the carriageway on Paddy's Hill.
FCC/22/0026	Fingal County Council Active Travel Office – Staff Costs €1,100,000	
FCC/22/0028	FCC Castleknock to Blanchardstown via Farmleigh €50,000	Stage 2 of the tender competition for a design consultant and assessment has been completed. Contract documents have been signed and sealed and a commencement meeting has taken place. The feasibility study has started, and traffic and drone surveys have taken place which will help inform the study. A tender competition to carry out a topographical survey has been completed with survey works starting May 2024.
FCC/23/0003	SRTS (R1) – Ladyswell National School €300,000	Detailed Design is complete for the Tranche 2 schools and a tender competition for the construction works has closed. The winning contractor is due to start on site at the end of April 2024.
FCC/23/0004	SRTS (R1) – Scoil Ghrainne CNS €200,000	Detailed Design is complete for the Tranche 2 schools and a tender competition for the construction works has closed. The winning contractor is due to start on site at the end of Q2/ start of Q3 2024.
FCC/23/0005	SRTS (R1) – Scoil Choilm CNS €350,000	Installation of flexible bollards on Porterstown Rd. outside the school entrance is complete. Detailed Design is complete for the Tranche 2 schools and a tender competition for the construction works has closed. The winning contractor is due to start on site at the end of Q2/ start of Q3 2024.
FCC/23/0018	Active Travel Pathfinder – Swords to Airport Quick Build €500,000	Project team have engaged an Integrated Design Team to work on the project. Preferred Options report has been completed and is going through discussion and consultation with the Statutory stakeholder at present.

FCC/23/0019	SRTS (R1) – Pope John Paul II NS, Malahide	Contract with contractor signed and site queued for construction.
FCC/23/0020	SRTS (R1) – Bayside Junior School (Scoil Náisiúnta Muire agus Iósef, Sóisear)	Works are now completed at the school site. The contractor has carried out minor snagging and maintenance on rain gardens. The Stage 3 Road Safety Audit has been completed by an independent auditor.
FCC/24/XXXX	SRTS (R2) Design	
FCC/24/XXXX	Feltrim Road Cycle Infrastructure €150,000	<p>The brief and tender documents have been prepared and it is intended to go to tender for the works in early Q2, 2024.</p> <p>The route of the Feltrim cycle scheme is shown on the map below, commencing at Kettles Lane, along the Feltrim Road to Mountgorry Way and on up to the Swords Road Roundabout.</p> <p>The Active Travel Unit of Fingal County Council proposes to engage a consultant to provide multi-disciplinary consultancy services for the provision and improvement of infrastructure for pedestrians, people on cycles and other vulnerable road users.</p> <p>The study area is from the Mountgorry Way/Swords Road roundabout via Mountgorry Way and Feltrim Road, tying into the Feltrim Road/Kettle's Lane junction. An indicative route for illustrative purposes is provided below.</p> <p>This map outlines the route of the proposed improved active travel infrastructure with the addition of a pedestrian crossing facility to be provided at/near the entrance to Kettles Park on Kettles Lane, and treatment of the three roundabouts at Swords Road/Mountgorry Way, Mountgorry Way/Feltrim Road, and Drinan Enterprise Centre/Liam Rogers Centre/MPETSS.</p> <p>It is anticipated that a concept design will be completed by Q4 2024, with Preliminary Design commencing in Q1, 2025.</p>
FCC/24/XXXX	Donabate to Portrane (R126) – Distributor Rd to Portrane Avenue Active Routes €100,000	Consultant is finalising concept drawings and options report. Discussion and negotiations ongoing with Property Section and landowners to acquire lands where required.

Appendix 4
Housing Delivery Construction Programme
Schemes on Site

Area Committee	Provider	Funding Stream	Site Name	No. Units	Status Detail	On-Site Date	Handover (estimated)
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Bowden Court, Swords 53°27'52.7"N 6°14'04.1"W - Google Maps	11 4 x 1 Bed 4 x 2 Bed 3 x 3 Bed	On-Site	Q4 2022	Q3 2024
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	Tuath Housing	Social - Elderly	Kilbedge Lane, Lusk 53°31'24.4"N 6°10'30.3"W - Google Maps	31 13 x 1 Bed 18 x 2 Bed	On-Site	Q1 2023	Q2 2024
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Balough Place, Lusk https://goo.gl/maps/8u6BiRWzuLSTmjk8	10 9 x 2 Bed 1 x 1 Bed	On-Site	Q1 2023	Q3 2024
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Monastery Court, Church Road, Lusk https://goo.gl/maps/vqRAVUw8ZqhM75w66	5 5 x 2 Bed	On-Site	Q1 2023	Q3 2024
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Hayestown, Rush 53°31'24.1"N 6°06'42.1"W - Google Maps	61	On-Site	Q2 2023	Q3 2024
Balbriggan/Rush - Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	St. Ita's, Portrane Portrane Ave - Google Maps	5 Restoration of existing cottages.	On-Site	Q4 2022	Q4 2024
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	Glenveagh Living Ltd	Mixed Tenure	Balmoston Ph1., Donabate 53°29'21.2"N 6°07'58.1"W	173 87 social 86 cost rental	On-Site	Q3 2023	Q2 2025
Blanchardstown/Mulhuddart/Castleknock/ Ongar	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Church Fields 3A 53°24'44.7"N 6°23'39.0"W - Google	120 40 social 80 cost rental	On-Site	Q4 2023	Q3 2025

Appendix 4- continued
Schemes with Planning Approval and at Tender stage

Area Committee	Provider	Funding Stream	Site Name	No. Units	Status Detail	On-Site Date	Handover (Est.)
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social - Elderly	North Street, Swords 53°27'38.6"N 6°13'06.7"W - Google Maps	13 6 x 1 Bed 7 x 2 Bed	Enabling works complete.	Q4 2023	Q1 2026
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social -	Seatown Swords 53°27'35.4"N 6°13'04.7"W Google Maps	36 36 x 2 Bed	Enabling works commenced.	Q1 2024	Q4 2026
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	North and East Housing Association	Social – Elderly	Garristown 53°34'03.7"N 6°22'42.1"W - Google Maps	6 3 x 2-bed 3 x 1-bed	Planning granted.	TBC	TBC
Blanchardstown/Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar	FCC	Social – Elderly TBC	Blakestown Cross, Mulhuddart 53.399869, -6.401776 Google Maps	30 16 x 1 Bed 14 x 2 Bed	Consultants to be appointed	Q4 2024	TBC
Howth/Malahide	FCC	TBC	Tuckets Lane 53.385248, -6.066128 Google Maps	8 4x 1 Bed 4x 2 Bed	Boundary issues being resolved.	TBC	TBC
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Holywell, Swords 53°26'48.1"N 6°12'42.8"W	57 20 x 1-bed 29 x 2-bed 8 x 3-bed	Tender package to be completed.	Q3 2024	Q4 2025
Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Church Fields 3B 53°24'44.7"N 6°23'39.0"W - Google Maps	217	ABP approved planning Q4 2023.	Q1 2025	Q2 2026
Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Mareston Mareston, Dublin 11 53°24'28.4"N 6°17'02.1"W - Google Maps	119 39 x 1 Bed 68 x 2 Bed 12 x 3 Bed	Enabling works to commence.	Q2 2024	Q4 2025
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Mourne View, Skerries. 53.580404, -6.122225	14 11x2Bed 3x3Bed 1x4Bed	S179a planning process complete.	Q4 2024	Q4 2025
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Rathmore, Remount, Lusk	18	S179a planning process complete.	TBC	TBC

Appendix 4- continued
Schemes at the Pre-Planning Stage

Area Committee	Provider	Funding Stream	Site Name	No. Units	Status Detail	On-Site Date	Handover (estimated)
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Mixed Tenure	New Road, Donabate <a 6°08'27.5\"w"="" href="https://www.google.com/maps/place/53°29'02.6\" n="">53°29'02.6"N 6°08'27.5"W	175	S179a Planning process to commence.	TBC	TBC
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	TBC	O' Dwyers, Balbriggan. https://maps.app.goo.gl/inSEC4Qq3QSBHQHp8	80-120	Surveys progressing.	TBC	TBC
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Woodside, Swords. 53.453901, -6.210574 Google Maps	34	Design pack issued.	TBC	TBC
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	TBC	Mooretown Phase 1, Swords. https://maps.app.goo.gl/R8eAG1aoLXh1nL2J9	274	Design Masterplan to be completed.	Q1 2025	TBC
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Kenure, Rush. 53.532278, -6.102176 Google Maps	32	Design ongoing. Surveys to commence.	TBC	TBC
Howth/Malahide	FCC	Social	Fingerpost, Malahide	4	Design ongoing.	TBC	Q4 2026
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Balmoston Ph2, Donabate <a 6°07'58.1\"w"="" href="https://www.google.com/maps/place/53°29'21.2\" n="">53°29'21.2"N 6°07'58.1"W	151 TBC	At pre-planning stage.	TBC	TBC

*The above-estimated timelines are indicative and subject to a successful planning and procurement process.

Appendix 4- continued

Long Term Leasing

Area Committee	Lessor	Funding Stream	Site Name	No. Units	Status Detail	Handover (estimated)
Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar	Glenveagh Homes	Enhanced Leasing	Balroy House	82	On-site	Q2 2024